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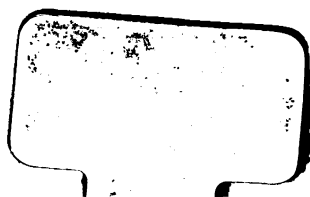
LODGE OF ANTIQUITY No. 178

HISTORY OF  
MASONRY  
IN WIGAN



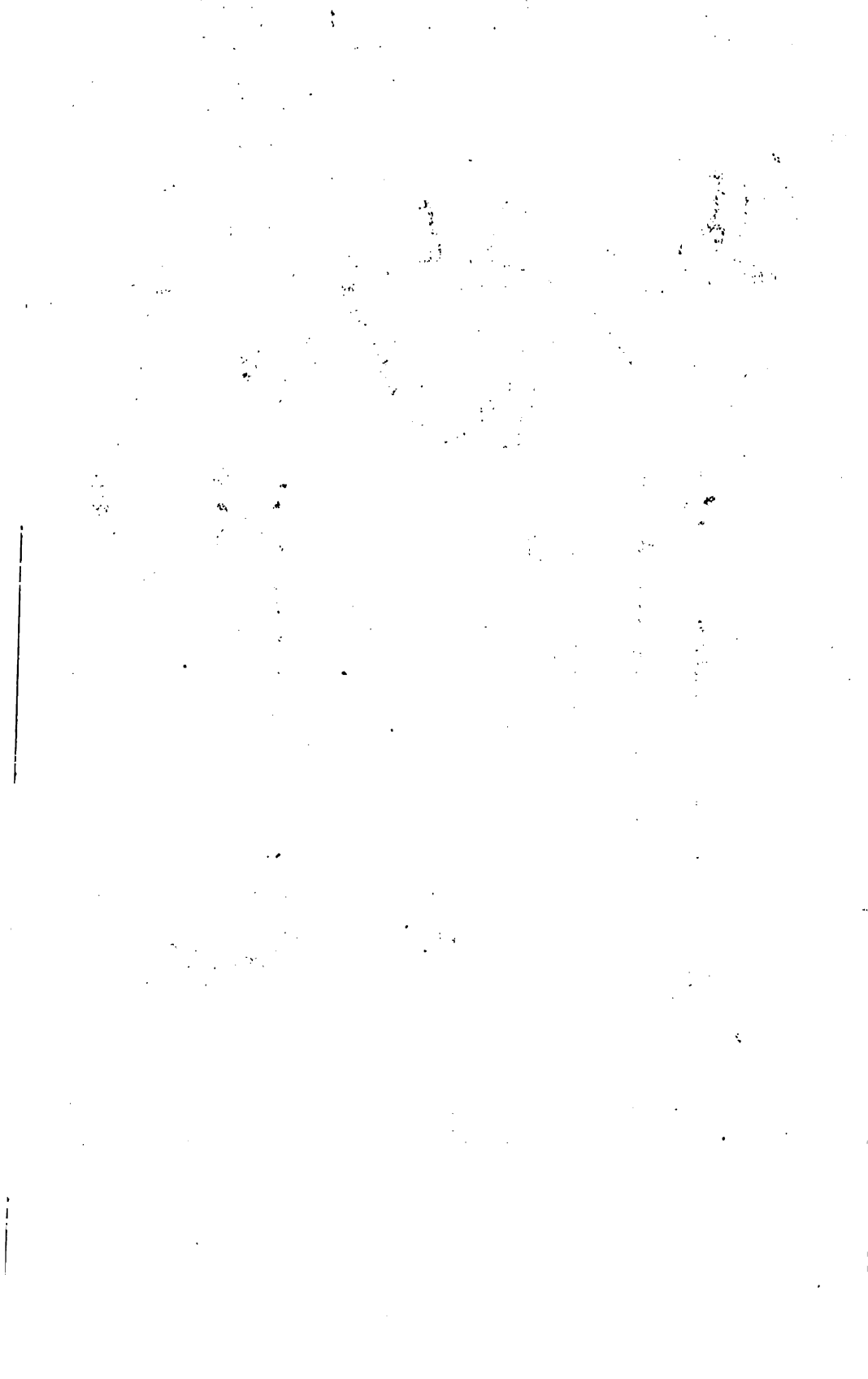
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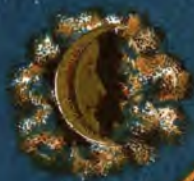
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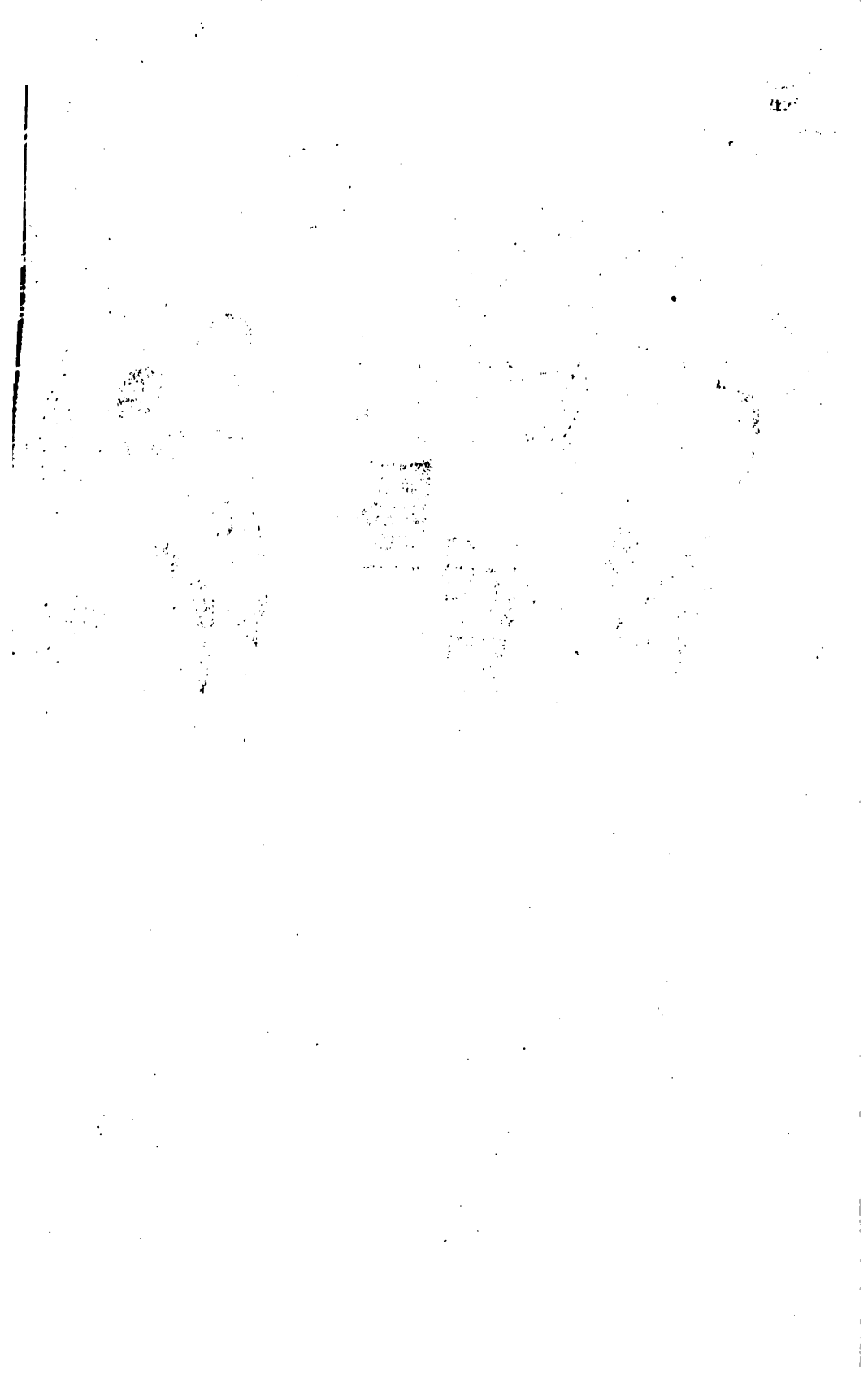
HARMONEY LODGE. N° 178

LODGE OF ANTIQUITY

Nº

178





# Masonry in Wigan,

BEING A BRIEF

## HISTORY

OF

# Lodge of Antiquity,

No. 178, originally No. 235.

WITH REFERENCES TO OTHER LODGES IN THE BOROUGH  
AT THE CLOSE OF THE LAST AND BEGINNING  
OF THE PRESENT CENTURY.

---

COMPILED BY

*Bro. J. BROWN, Secretary.*

---

WIGAN:

PRINTED BY BRO. R. PLATT, STANDISHGATE AND MILLGATE,

1882.







## *INTRODUCTORY.*

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The following brief history of Lodge of Antiquity, No. 178, was read before the Lodge, on September 21st of this year, and with some additional matter is now published at the request of the Brethren present.

The proceeds, after paying the expenses of publishing, will be devoted to the Funds of the West Lancashire Masonic Educational Institution.

J. B.

WIGAN,  
DECEMBER, 1881.



(COPY OF WARRANT).

No. 235 "Ancients;" No. 294 A.D. 1814; No. 207 A.D. 1832;  
and No. 178 from A.D. 1863.

Antrim, Grand Master.

[Seal]

Laurence Dermott, D.G.M.

John Feakins, S.G.W.

Thomas Harper, J.G.W.

To all whom it may concern.

**W**e, the Grand Lodge of the Most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity of Free and Accepted Masons (according to the Old Constitutions granted by His Royal Highness Prince Edwin, at York, Anno Domini nine hundred twenty and six, and in the year of Masonry four thousand nine hundred twenty and six), and these in ample form assembled, namely, the Right Worshipful and most Potent and Puissant Lord the Right Honourable Randal William Mac Donnell, Earl and Baron of Antrim, Lord Viscount Dunlace, Lord-Lieutenant of the County of Antrim in the Province of Ulster, and Kingdom of Ireland, Knight of the Most Military Order of the Bath, one of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council in the Kingdom of Ireland and in that part of Great Britain called England, and Masonical Jurisdiction thereunto belonging, Grand Master of Masons; the Right Worshipful Laurence Dermott, Esquire, Deputy Grand Master; the Right Worshipful John Feakins, Esquire, Senior Grand Warden; and the Right Worshipful Thomas Harper, Esquire, Junior Grand Warden (with the approbation and consent of the Warranted Lodges held within the Cities and Suburbs of London and Westminster), do hereby authorise and empower our trusty and well-beloved brother, namely, No. 235 the Worshipful Thomas Doncaster, Esq., one of our Master Masons, the Worshipful Mr. Wm. Rogers his Senior Warden, and the Worshipful Mr. William Bradley his Junior Warden, to form and hold a Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons aforesaid, at the sign of the Queen's Head (or elsewhere), in the Borough of Wiggim and county of Lancaster, upon the next

Wednesday on, or before, Full Moon of every Calendar Month, and on all seasonable times and lawful occasions. And in the said Lodge (when duly congregated) to admit and make Free Masons according to the most Ancient and Honourable Custom of the Royal Craft in all ages and nations throughout the known world. And we do hereby further authorise and empower our said trusty and well-beloved brethren, Thomas Doncaster, Esquire; Mr. William Rogers, and Mr. William Bradley (with the consent of the members of your Lodge), to nominate, chuse, and instal their Successors, to whom they shall deliver this Warrant and invest them with their powers and dignities as Free Masons, &c. And such Successors shall in like manner nominate, chuse, and instal their successors, &c., &c., &c. Such installations to be upon (or near) every St. John's Day, during the continuance of this Lodge, for ever. Providing the above-named brethren and all their Successors always pay due respect to this Right Worshipful Grand Lodge, otherwise this Warrant to be of no force nor virtue.

Given under our Hands and the Seal of our Grand Lodge in London, this 26th day of May, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty and Six, and in the year of Masonry Five Thousand Seven Hundred Eighty and Six.

JOHN McCORMICK,  
Grand Secretary.

[Seal]



*Note,—This Warrant is Registered in the Grand Lodge, Volume 8,  
Letter H.*

Bro. John Hardman, No. 39, Manr.

„ James Ashton,	121,	„
„ Jas. Higginson	39,	„
„ Jas. Ashlay,	„	„
„ Jno. Beswick,	„	„
„ Jas. Butterworth	„	„
„ Jas. Wilcock,	„	„
„ Jos. Waddington,	„	„
„ James Greenhalgh	„	„
„ Thos. Clarke, Senr. Warden,	196,	Bolton.
„ Peter Bottomley, J.W.,	196,	Bolton.
„ Chas. Aldcroft, Secy.	„	„
„ Nicholas Thomason,	„	„
„ James Robinson,	„	„
„ Jonathan Platt,	„	„
„ Hugh Wood,	„	„
„ Willm. Morris,	„	„
„ John Thornley,	„	„
„ Wm. Lythgo,	„	„
„ Isaac Pendlebury	„	„

“After the Lodge was duly opened, the Right Worshipful Grand Master and the rest of the Right Worshipful Officers and members then proceeded to the Installation of Lodge No. 235, which was performed with the greatest solemnity, regularity and decorum, and Bro. William Rogers of No. 53, Liverpool, named as Senior Warden in the Warrant, in the absence of Bro. Thos. Doncaster, Esqr., of No. 39, Manchester, named as Master therein, who is at Buxton Bath for the benefit of his health, was installed Master; Bro. William Bradley, of 39, Manchester, therein named as Junior Warden, was installed Senior Warden; Bro. Thos. Walker, of 33, Scotland, was installed Junior Warden, and Bro. Richard Holmes, 196, Bolton, as Treasurer, who were directed to chose their own Deacons and other officers when convenient to themselves and then which was absent.

“At one o'clock the Lodge was called to Refreshment and continued while ye Grand Lodge of Antiquity of England was toasted and then called to work again, and continued open until the hour of three, when the same was closed in

the greatest Harmony in pursuance of the Grand Lodge Instructions; and it was ordered by the officers and members present upon motion of Bro. Aldcroft, that their thanks should be transmitted to the Grand Lodge for the Honor conferred upon them by the Grand in empowering them to open and hold this Grand Lodge.

1786.

June 24.—A copy of this transaction was sent to the Grand Secretary, enclosed in a letter of which the following is a copy:—

Bolton, 23rd June, 1786. 5786.

“Sir,—On the other half you have a copy of the transactions which I took at ye Grand Lodge at Wigan, on Wednesday last on their Installation, Bro. Barlow of No. 39 was G.S. whose minutes I suppose you’ve received, but as a part of our Body, namely: Bro. J. B. and others attended to assist them, and without wch. assistance they themselves cou’d not have gone regularly through the business of the day. I took these transactions as acting Secretary of our own Lodge who are not well pleased at the treatment they have met with respecting the Installation of the Wigan Lodge.

“In the first place they were ordered to us by you to recommend em, and I myself had the trouble of drawing up a petition for them, and doing their other business, as to obtaining ye warrant tho’ I advis’d em to get ye sanction of the other Lodges in the neighbourhood, wch. was accordingly done, and wch. was the cause of No. 39 and 171 appearing to ye petition or being concern’d at all, how 39 were after wds. order’d to install em we can’t imagine, and sho’d wish to be inform’d, as we are not genteley us’d after having done all the previous business not to be diricted to do that part, and tho’ 39 had the preferance given them it was not in their power to have executed the business without our assistance.

Joined by our Worshipful Master, Wardens, and the rest of ye Brethren in Best wishes to you and for the Welfare, Honor, and Harmony of ye Craft.

I remain,

Your affectionate Bro.,

CHS. ALDCROFT,

Secy., 196.

N.B.—We shall not forget to carry our festival to-morrow in such a manner as becomes every respectable Bro. of ye ancient fraternity and to toast our superiors with every mark of gratitude.

These extracts from the “Antiquity,” Bolton, are all referring to that Lodge of any interest.

The First Minute in our own Lodge Book is as follows:—

“Grand Lodge held at the Queen’s Head, in Wigan, Lancashire, on Wednesday, the 21st day of June, 1786. 5786.

The Right Worshipful Bro. John Watson, of Lodge No. 39, Manchester, Grand Master appointed in pursuance of a Deputation sent to him for that purpose from the Ancient Grand Lodge of England, and the Masonical Jurisdiction thereof, with Bro. Gilbert Robinson, of Lodge No. 196, Bolton, his Right Worshipful Deputy Grand Master, Bro. John Parker, of 39, his Right Worshipful Senr. Warden, Bro. William Macovoy, his Right Worshipful Junr. Warden, and Bro. John Barlow, of 39, his Grand Secretary, opened a Grand Lodge in due form upon the Third Step of Masonry according to the Ancient usage of the Craft of Free and accepted Masons in all ages used and approved of, at twelve o’clock at noon, in the presence of and join’d by the several Brethren of the several Lodges hereafter mentioned, viz. :—

Bro. John Hardman, of Lodge No. 39, Manchester.

„ James Ashton, of Lodge No. 171, Salford.

„ James Higginson, of Lodge No. 39, Manchester.

„ James Ashley, of Lodge No. 39, Manchester.

„ John Beswick, of Lodge No. 39, Manchester.

„ James Butterworth, of Lodge No. 39, Manchester.

- Bro. Richd. Bayliffe, of Lodge No. 39, Manchester.
- „ James Wilcock, of Lodge No. 39, Manchester.
  - „ Joseph Waddington, of Lodge No. 39, Manchester.
  - „ James Greenhalgh, formerly of Lodge No. 39, Manchester.
  - „ Thomas Clarke, Senr. Warden of Lodge No. 196, Bolton.
  - „ Peter Bentley, Junr. Warden of Lodge No. 196, Bolton.
  - „ Chars. Aldcroft, Secretary of Lodge No. 196, Bolton.
  - „ Nicholas Thomason, of Lodge No. 196, Bolton.
  - „ James Robinson, of Lodge No. 196, Bolton.
  - „ Jonathan Platt, of Lodge No. 196, Bolton.
  - „ Hugh Woods, of Lodge No. 196, Bolton.
  - „ William Woods, of Lodge No. 196, Bolton.
  - „ John Thornley, of Lodge No. 196, Bolton.
  - „ William Lythgoe, of Lodge No. 196, Bolton.
  - „ Isaac Pendlebury, of Lodge No. 196, Bolton.

“After the Lodge was duly opened the Right Worshipful Grand Master and the rest of the Right Worshipful Officers and members then proceeded to the Installation of Lodge No. 235, which was performed with the greatest Solemnity, Regularity, and Decorum, and Brother William Rogers, of No. 53, Liverpool, named as Senr. Warden in the Warrant (in the absence of Bro. Thos. Doncaster, Esq., of No. 39, Manchester, named as Master therein who is at Buxton Bath for the Benefit of his Health), was install'd Master. Bro. Wm. Bradley, of No. 39, Manchester, therein nam'd as Junr. Warden was Installed Senr. Warden. Bro. Thos. Walker, of No. 23, Scotland, was installed Junr. Warden, and Bro. Richd. Holmes, of 196, Bolton, Treasurer, who where directed to chose their own Deacons and other officers when convenient to themselves, and then which was about one o'clock the Lodge was call'd to refreshment and continued so, whilst the Grand Officers of the Grand Lodge of Antiquity of England was toasted, and then call'd on to Labour again and continued open till the hour of three when the same was closed in the greatest Harmony in pursuance of the Grand Lodge Instructions.

These Minutes are not signed.

1786.

"July 11.—Regular Lodge Night the Monday on or before the Full Moon.

Opened the Lodge No. 235 at six o'clock in due form on the third step of Masonry. Bro. Doncaster who was absent at the Installation was then installed (by the Members of this Lodge assisted by Bro. Gilbert Robinson, Bro. Aldcroft, Bro. Thomason, Bro. Critchley, and Bro. John Robinson, of 196, Bolton, and Bro. Wm. Johnson, of No. 211, Scotland), Master of this Lodge. Bro. Rogers declined his office as Master and was install'd Senr. Warden, and Bro. Bradley declined his office as Senr. Warden, and was install'd Junr. Warden.

"Call'd to refreshment about 7 o'clock and toasted the new officers of this Lodge, and the officers of the Grand Lodge of England.

"Called on to labour about eight, and after initiating a Bro. the Lodge closed.

"N.B.—Patrick Kennedy, of No.—wished to be admitted a Member, but on account of his Misconduct upon former occasions it was order'd to be took into consideration, and an answer given him the next Lodge night.

This is signed by

CHARLES ALDCROFT, of 196,

Acting Secretary.

It will be seen that the Names and Dates correspond exactly with those recorded in the Bolton Minute Book, and also with those on the Warrant.

In the Treasurer's book I find the following items :—

1786.	£	s.	d.
"Mar. 9.—Postage from G. Secy. - - -	0	0	6
„ 14.—Bro. Sherrington, two journeys to Bro. Rogers	0	0	9
„ 17.—Pd. Postage at Lodge 196 on our act. - -	0	1	10
To Bro. Bradley going to Manchester to get			
Petition, &c. - - - - -	1	6	0

		£	s.	d.
May	5.—Postage from G. Secy. - - - - -	0	0	6
„	9.—Paid on account of Warrant Jewels & for G. Secy. Letter - - - - -	10	7	0
June	3.—Pd. Carriage of Box with Jewels, &c., from London - - - - -	0	2	10
„	5.—Pd. for Hangings for do. - - - - -	0	13	8
„	17.— „ for the Dinner for the Bros. coming ex- press from Manchester on act of the Instalation - - - - -	0	1	4
„	21.—Thirty-six Dinners at the Instalation - - - - -	1	16	0
„	21.—Beer & Porter 66 Quarts, Brandy Punch - - - - -	2	11	0
„	21.—Rum Punch and Suppers - - - - -	1	8	3
„	22.—Breakfasts, Dinners, Liquor, &c. - - - - -	0	10	6
„	22.—Chaise, Drivers, Victuals & Liquor - - - - -	0	5	0
July	11.—A pair of Compass' for the Lodge - - - - -	0	0	8
„	—A Book for Transactions - - - - -	0	0	7

It would appear from the above that a few visitors remained until the following day, and were entertained by again dining, and afterwards a drive into the country. This Meeting after the Installation or "The Festival of St. John" is still kept up in some towns in Lancashire and is called holding "St. John's Wife."

It has often been said by some old Members that the Warrant we hold is not the original one granted to the Lodge; that there was one ten years earlier and that it was lost. In fact a few years ago The Provincial Grand Officers were invited to a Banquet at the Public Hall to celebrate the centenary of the Lodge, and most singular to relate, they had not consulted the first Minute Book, or even read the Warrant. From what has been stated above it is quite clear that there never was one in connection with Lodge No. 235, that the one we now hold is the original one granted to the Lodge, that Thos. Doncaster was its first Installed Master, and that Thomas Holmes, Great Uncle of our Worthy Bro. C. B. Holmes, P.M., was one of the original founders. At this time on all the papers, and until about 1860, on the circular, the Lodge is always called The "Antient Royal Arch Lodge."

Bro. R. F. Gould, in his works on the "Atholl Lodges," states that—"During the last century, there were four Grand Lodges of England, viz. :—(1) The Grand Lodge of England, 1717; (2) The Grand Lodge of All England (York), 1725; (3) The Grand Lodge of England "according to the old Institutions," 1753; (4) The Grand Lodge of England "South of the Trent," 1779. Of the foregoing, Nos. 2 and 4 succumbed to adverse fortune leaving the Grand Lodges established respectively in 1717 and 1753 to continue their rivalry alone from 1790 to 1813. The junior of these Two bodies originated in the secession of numerous brethren about 1738 from the parent Grand Lodge of English Masonry, which they averred had adopted new plans and departed from the old landmarks. The schismatics, therefore, in reverting (as they alleged) to the "old forms" arrogated to themselves the title of "Antient" Masons, bestowing upon their rivals the odious appellation of "Moderns," and by these distinctive epithets they have since been generally described.

Towards the close of the eighteenth century, the two Grand Lodges became further distinguished from each other, by the names of their respective Grand Masters; thus, whilst brethren holding under the "Regular" or "Constitutional" Grand Lodge (1717), were indifferently classed as "Prince of Wales" Masons or "Moderns," those under the jurisdiction of the "Seceding" Grand Lodge (1753), were styled "Atholl" Masons or "Antients." Under this Grand Lodge 359 Warrants were issued, No. 235, the Queen's Head, Wiggin, being one, bearing date of 26 May, 1786.

In the year 1813, November 8th, The Duke of Atholl resigned the office of Grand Master and the Union of the two Lodges took place under the Presidency of His Royal Highness the Duke of Kent. It is now called the United Grand Lodge of England.

We have in our possession a Grand Lodge Circular containing an account of the Installation of the Duke of Kent with the full programme observed on the occasion, also part of the rules and regulations passed for the accomplishment of the Union.

It was at this time that the No. of the Lodge was put back from No. 235 to No. 294, the manner in which it was done is fully

described,—“The Representatives of the several Lodges shall sit under their respective banner according to seniority. The two first Lodges under each Grand Lodge to draw a lot in the first place for priority, and to which of the two the lot No. 1 shall fall, the other to rank as No. 2, and all the other Lodges to fall in alternately, that is, the Lodge which is No. 2 of the Fraternity whose lot it shall be to draw No. 1 shall rank as No. 3 in the United Grand Lodge, and the other No. 2 shall rank as No. 4, and so on alternately through all the numbers respectively, and this shall for ever after be the order and rank of the Lodges in the Grand Lodge, and in Grand Processions, for which a plan and drawing shall be prepared previous to the union, &c., &c.”

These two Grand Lodges were, for some time, not at all on friendly terms. Brethren of one Grand Lodge were not allowed to enter the other, and if a Brother wished to join, he had to be initiated and pass through the usual grades as though he were a stranger to Masonry.

It is recorded that the “Modern” Masons petitioned parliament to grant them a Charter of incorporation, in order to give them the power and pleasure of punishing every Freemason in England that did not pay quarterage to them. The wisdom of Parliament treated the petition with just contempt and it was reported in the public papers, that the Honourable Speaker of the House of Commons said “that if the petition was granted he made no doubt the chimney sweepers would soon apply for a Charter.

The writer adds “it is remarkable that the petition was presented on “fools’ day” the first of April, 1770.” After a few years of earnest work, the union of the two Grand Lodges was completed in 1813, and a fitting tribute paid to the Duke of Atholl.

The Grand Lodge of England (York) had but a short life and did not issue many Warrants.

The “Atholl” Masons are sometimes called “York” Masons. They are so called because the first Grand Lodge in England was congregated at York, 926, by Prince Edwin, who at the same time purchased a Free Charter from King Athelstan for the use of the Fraternity. Our own Warrant and Rules and Regulations are according to the old constitutions granted by his Royal

Highness Prince Edwin at York, in the year of our Lord nine hundred seventy and six, and in the year of Masonry four thousand nine hundred and seventy-six.

The Lodge possesses a code of By-Laws, printed by order of the Grand Lodge, dated, London, May 26, 1786; the same day that the Warrant was signed and certified by John McCormick, G.S.; they are in the following terms:

“These Rules and Orders are now in practice and full force.

“No. 1 fixes the time and place of meeting.

That the said Lodge shall consist of one Master, two Wardens, two Deacons, one Secretary, one Treasurer, and as many Members as the Master and majority shall think proper; and that every Brother shall appear in clean decent apparel, with proper clothing, and observe a due Decorum while the Lodge is engaged in what is serious and solemn; and for the better preservation of Secrecy and good Harmony, a Brother well-skilled in the Master's Part, shall be appointed and paid for Tyling the Lodge door during the time of communication.

“2.—If any Member be Absent one Hour after the appointed Time of Meeting he shall be fined One Penny, and if Absent the whole Night, or Time of Business, he shall be fined Two pence, except such Absentee be Sick, Lame, in confinement, or upwards of Three Miles from the place of Meeting; and that all such fines shall be deposited in the Fund for the Relief of indigent Brethren.

“3.—The Master to be Balloted for. The Master to nominate one for each of the officers' chairs, and the Brethren to nominate one each in opposition, to be Balloted for in like manner.

“5.—That if any Member (past officers excepted) refuse to serve any of the offices, he shall be fined as follows, viz: for the Master, five shillings; each Warden and Secretary, two shillings and sixpence; each Deacon, one shilling; and to be fined the like sum if they don't serve their full term.

"7.—That on every stated Lodge Night each member shall pay fourteen pence, of which six pence shall be spent and 2d. to be paid over to the W.M., for the G. Lodge of Benevolence and the remainder put into the Fund, for the relief of Indigent or Sick Brethren."

"9.—The Initiation Fee shall not be less than Two Guineas and cloathe the Lodge if required."

(In the old regulations, according to Ahiman Rezon, every new Brother on his entry is to decently clothe the Lodge, that is, all the Brethren present.)

Another explanation in the same Work is, "By cloathing is meant white aprons and gloves, not only for every Member in the Lodge but also for all their wives and sweethearts if they require them."

The entrance fee was fixed at five shillings.

"And it is hereby Ordered and Declared, That no person is capable of becoming a Member of this Lodge, but such as are of Mature Age, upright in Body and Limbs, free from Bondage, has the senses of a Man, and is endowed with an Estate, Office, Trade, Occupation, or some Visible Way of acquiring an Honest and reputable Livelihood, as becomes the Members of this Most Ancient and Honourable Fraternity."

"11.—If any Bro. Curse, Swear, lay, or offer to lay Wagers, he is to be fined."

There are twenty-six rules in all, and additions were frequently made to them; one is to this effect (after Bye-law 7) "and that the W.M., for the time being, have power to give such sick Member on application within seven days of such sickness, a weekly allowance not exceeding 7s., providing always that the sick Brother or Brethren have in all cases complied with the 13th Article following." The 13th Article relates to the payment of fines and dues.

Another is as follows:

"Whereas, it appears to the Lodge (294) that some of the Brethren may die in Indigent Circumstances, and that their relatives may not be enabled to inter such Brethren in a manner becoming our venerable institution, it is hereby

ordered, that the W.M., be empowered to give to such from the Charity fund, any sum not exceeding £5, in aid of such interment; and if a Brother's Wife should die, the W.M. is hereby empowered to grant unto such Brother any sum not exceeding £4, and in case of application on either of the before mentioned cases from the aforesaid Charity fund, for the more decent interment of a Bro. or a Bro.'s Wife, every subscribing member shall, on the monthly night following, pay one shilling each."

1815.

"Feby. 23—It was agreed by a Majority of this Lodge that all Subscribing Brethren belonging to the same shall not receive any Benefit unless they have regularly been admitted into this Lodge to the degree of Master full six months after receiving the same, and all Dues and Demands regularly Discharged."

1822.—In July of this year, fourteen additional rules\* were drawn up and signed by all the Members, and they were such as would be adopted in any well-regulated Sick and Burial Society, showing that at this date there was a society of this class in connection with the Lodge. These remained in full force until the year 1857, when the character of the Lodge was entirely changed.

The only reference to a Charity Fund appears in two short By-Laws.

"13th. No applicant for relief shall be dismissed without a proper inquiry, and if found worthy, shall have it from the Relief fund."

"16th. That a fund be raised by subscription or otherwise, on each Lodge Night when necessary."

In 1874 these regulations were again superseded by those now in use, wherein no reference is made to any Charity Fund.

The Lodge possesses Books of Constitution dated, 1815, 1861, 1867, and 1873.

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\*See Appendix.

The Treasurer's Books are complete from the day of Consecration to the present time.

The Minute Books are also complete, from these I will now give a few extracts, with comments gained from other sources.

1786.

"Sep. 13.—A Night of Emergency.

Bro. Morgan passed the chair on his emergency, there being a sufficient number of Past Masters present. This occurs very frequently, Brethren from Leigh, Chorley, and other places coming to Wigan to pass the chair. A fuller account is given Nov. 19, 1787.

It was ordered that the following Brethren should, on payment into the common stock of the Lodge, 2s. 6d., and 2s. 6d., further towards the expences of the evening, pass the chair if found worthy; here follow the names of Fourteen Brethren."

1787.

"April 28.—Lodge of Emergency.

Bro. John Green passed the chair, and was duly declared Master for a certain space of time.

At this time no Bro. could become an Arch Mason until he had passed the chair, that is, become a regularly Installed Master of a Lodge, and this was a ceremony gone through to enable a Bro. to become an Arch Mason, but it did not entitle him to rank as Past Master of the Lodge. I find that this was an irregular ceremony. Gould, in his work on the "Atholl Lodges," gives an instance of a W.M. being brought before Grand Lodge for making Arch Masons previous to their passing the Chair as Master of a Lodge."

From the above we may suppose that the Arch Degree was worked in connection with the Lodge, although I cannot find that they had a separate Warrant.

The "Moderns" Grand Chapter, dated from about 1760. It originated by a few eminent Masons well versed in the ceremonies, taking the direction of the Chapter with which they were connected, and constituting it a Grand Chapter. They then proceeded to issue Warrants, and it is still styled the Grand Chapter in connection with the Grand Lodge of England.

At this time, in our Lodge, the Arch Degree was worked as the Fourth Degree and on the same evening as the Regular Lodge.

I have no doubt that a few of the Brethren who formed the Lodge were "Arch" Masons, and as soon as the Lodge was in working order, commenced to work this Degree.

The Arch Treasurer's Book dates from 1788. The fee was then 10s. 6d.; Certificate, 3s.

We have Rules and Regulations for the Holy Royal Arch, revised and confirmed at a General Grand Chapter, held at the Crown and Anchor Tavern, London, April 6th, 1791.—Signed, ROBERT LESLIE, G.S., 1791.

Also, Rules and Regulations for the Introduction and Government of the Holy Royal Arch Chapters under the protection and supported by The Antient Grand Lodge of England, revised and corrected at a General Grand Chapter, held at the Crown and Anchor Tavern, in the Strand, London, Oct. 1, 1794; Confirmed in Grand Lodge, December 3rd, 1794.—Signed, THOS. HARPER, Gd. Scribe, 207, Fleet Street.

In both these books of Rules the following appears:—

"Antient Masonry consists of Four Degrees:—The three first of which are that of Apprentice, The Fellow Craft, and The Sublime Degree of Master; and a Brother, being well versed in these degrees and having discharged the offices of his Lodge, particularly that of Master, and fulfilled the duties thereof with the approbation of the Brethren of his Lodge, is eligible to be admitted to the Fourth degree—The Holy Royal Arch. It follows, therefore, of course, that every Regular Warranted Lodge possesses the power of forming and holding Lodges in each of those several Degrees, the last of which, from its pre-eminence, is denominated among Masons a Chapter."

"That the said Chapters of H.R.A., may be held and conducted with the Regularity, Discipline, and Solemnity, becoming the Sublime Intention with which they have from time immemorial been held as an essential component part of Antient Masonry, and that which is the perfection and

end of the beautiful system, the Excellent Masons of the Grand Lodge of England according to the Old Institutions, assembled and constitutionally convened in General Grand Chapter of the H.R.A., have carefully collected, revised, and adopted the Regulations which have been in use for the Government thereof; that, under the sanction of the Grand Lodge of Antient Masons of England, they may be transmitted to every regular warranted Lodge on the Register, and be solemnly and finally made a Part of the Book of Laws and Regulations for the Craft."

The By-Laws concern the working of the Chapter, and it is further stated

"The General Grand Chapter, held in April in each year, shall elect Nine excellent Masters to assist the Grand Officers in visiting Lodges, &c., that the general uniformity of Antient Masonry may be preserved and handed down, unchanged to Futurity."

1799.

"Aug. 14.—That Bro. James Dawson, Secy., do write the Grand Lodge for further Instructions respecting a Grand Chapter to be held by us under the Warrant No. 235, & how far we have power to proceed thereon."

This Chapter was held until 1816, and from that time until 1823 there is no record of its being held.

In 1823 there is a letter from the Grand Secretary, in which he refers to a petition for a new Chapter, and gives the petitioners advice how to proceed.

In the year 1826 a new Chapter was granted, which is the one now held as the Chapter of Harmony in connection with the Lodge.

There is a foot note to the G.S.'s letter :—

"The petition from the Brethren at Upholland for a Warrant, has been laid before the Duke of Sussex, M.W.G.M. We have not yet received His Royal Highness' commands."

These references conclude all I can find connected with the working of the Royal Arch Degree.

1786.

"Sunday, Octr. 29th.

In the afternoon attended a funeral, Clothed, &c., in due form."

At a later date, dispensations were required to attend funerals in Clothing, and among the papers of the Lodge, several are preserved.

1786.

"Dec. 25.—A Night of Emergency.

The Lodge met for the purpose of settling the accounts for the Lodge No. 235, with the then Treasurer, and adjusting other business preparatory to St. John's Day."

1786.

"Dec. 27.—St. John's Day.

Opened the Lodge No. 235 at half-past nine o'clock in the morning, on the first, second, and third steps in Masonry . . . at half-past ten o'clock called from labour to refreshment, and proceeded forthwith to hear prayers at the Parish Church, from thence returned to the Lodge-room."

This appears to have been the custom for a number of years; a fuller account is given under the dates June 27th, 1787, and June 24th, 1802.

"Opened the Lodge No. 235 at half-past nine in the evening upon the first, second, and third steps of Masonry, being a Lodge of Emergency, in order to fulfil the intentions of last night's Lodge, and record the Celebration of the Festival of St. John; the members of this Lodge joined by a many Brethren from Chorley, Bolton, & Leigh, &c., with a Select Band of Music, new Banner & Regalia; the whole paraded the Town, making a respectable appearance, after which the Brethren Dined together in the New Town Hall."

St. John's, June 24th, 1802.

"Opened the Lodge No. 235 at nine o'clock in the morning, . . . at half-past ten o'clock the Brethren of this Lodge went in procession (accompanied by Bros. from Lodge No. 196 and Bros. of Lodge 303 Bolton, also a few Bros. from Chorley Lodge 238, and three Bros. from different Lodges in Liverpool), to the Old Church; Bro. Brierley read prayers,

and Bro. Dallas, of St. John's, Manchester, gave an excellent sermon; after prayers the Lodge, with a Band of Music, proceeded down Standishgate & up Millgate, thro' New St., up the Wallgate to the New Town Hall, where an excellent Dinner was provided by Bro. Holmes, after dinner there were Toasts and Masonic Songs Rehearsed, the afternoon was spent in the Antient Masonic Style, and nothing but Brotherly Love and Friendship prevailed."

At this time these processions were general with the Lodges in Lancashire, and they continued to a much later date. We have among the papers of the Lodge, invitations to join them at their Festivals and Processions; we also possess the identical Flag, and part of the Regalia here spoken of.

Copy of the Certificate granted by this Lodge :

"The light shined in darkness and the darkness comprehendeth it not. In the East a place of light, where reigns silence & peace."

"To all whom it may concern,—These are to Certify that the bearer hereof, Bro. B., is a regular regestered Master Mason in the Antient Royal Arch Lodge, No. 235, Wigan, and during his stay with us has behaved himself honestly, lawfully, and faithfully, and he safely may be admitted off by all to whom these presents shall come, after due examination, given under our hands and the seal of our Lodge this 8th day of Jany., in the year of our Lord, 1787, and of Masonry, 5787.—Honour all Men.—Love the Brotherhood.—Fear God.—Honour the King."

At this time it was the custom to give these travelling certificates to Brethren leaving one town for another, and amongst the papers of the Lodge will be found several of these curiosities; at a later day they were forbidden by the Grand Lodge of England.

1787.

"Sunday, 30th Dec.

Meet to Install the Master and other Officers, and to meet at one o'clock for that purpose, and that the Lodge do adjourn from the Queen's Head to the Shuffle and Broom, and then dine together at four o'clock."

1789.

"Dec. 30.—James Rigby produced a certificate from the Lodge No. 492, and took the obligation as Tyler and to stand the same two years."

1790.

"Nov. 24.—Prior to closing the Lodge (at the request of Bro. Welch) the members of this Society appointed Friday, the 30th of December, to go to the play & have chose for the play—the School for Scandal, the farce the Farmer, and it is requested that as many members that can conveniently attend will honour Mr. Welch with their company."

1791.

"Jany. 4.—St John's Day.

N.B.—The Worshipful Bro. Hawarden paid five shillings extraordinary towards the expence of the day."

1791. Lodge of Emergency.

"June 30.—Subscription for the Revd. Mr. B. confined in the castle at Lancaster for Debt. 15s. 6d., eight Brethren contribute."

1791.

"Dec. 12.—When the Rev. Mr. Godfrey, Bro. of Lodge No. 550, in Congleton, Cheshire, gave us an excellent Lecture on the First, Second, and Third Steps in Masonry, which the Lodge was summoned by the Worshipful Master, for the above purpose."

1792.

"Mar. 7.—Opened on the Third Step in Masonry at 9 o'clock, Bro. Thomas Walker, Master pro. tempore—Bro. Roger Anderson, Master, being this day at a splendid feast given at Lathom Hall on the coming of age of Edwd. Bootle, Esq., when upwards of one thousand Gentn. sat down to dinner in the park."

1793.

"Dec. 18.—Robt. McComb borrowed the History of Free Masonry pubd. 1764."

1794.

"Jan. 15.—John Benson, corporal in the First Regt. of Body Guards petitioned, and being a young man of Good Character was made and entered an apprentice in regular form."

1795.

"Oct. 28.—When the Royal Arch Masons fixed to meet at Bro. Wm. Hilton's in order to keep up that Lodge, on Sunday, the first day of November, 1795."

1796.

Jan. 20.—Bro. Roger Anderton gave a Book as a present for the use of this Lodge only, respecting Masonry, and not to be lent out of the Lodge."

1796.

"June 29.—Antient Lodges in Liverpool, with the Names of their Masters and days of meeting.

No. 20, Thos. Beswick, M.D. 33 members, 1st & 3rd Wednesday.

No. 25, John Marsh, 40 members, 2nd & 4th Tuesday.

No. 45, not at work.

No. 53, John McLoid, 22 members, 2nd & 4th Monday.

No. 132, under the censure of the Antient Grand Lodge meet every other Thursday.

No. 276, Joseph Johnson, 14 members, 1st & 3rd Friday.

No. 299, John Bird, 10 or 12 members, 2nd & 4th Wednesday.

1797.

"Apl. 20.—The following Brethren of the Lodges were present at the consecration of Lodge 221, Bolton :—

Bro. Henry Peet, 235, Wigan.

„ Thos. Walker.

„ Richd. Holmes.

„ Thos. Entwistle.

„ John Taylor.

„ Jos. Gaskell.

„ Jos. Taberner.

„ Jas. Scott.

„ Ed. Darbyshire.

„ Brooks.

1798.

"Oct. 24.—Bro. John Hammond got a certificate from this Lodge as a Master Mason, he having some thoughts of going abroad."

1799.

Thos. Doncaster, Esq., the first Master of the Lodge, is Mayor of Wigan.

1799.

"Oct. 9.—Thos. Walker, W.M., favor'd the body then set with the Original and Antient form of making a Master Mason—with thanks."

1800.

"Oct. 29.—Bro. James Wale, Soldier in the 4th Regt. or Queen's own Dragoons, obliged the Lodge with the apprentice Lecture, we returned him thanks for the same."

About this time a number of Soldiers were Initiated into the Lodge.

1801.

"Feb. 25.—Bro. John Taylor being disguis'd in Liquor, he was admonished by the Worshipful and ordered home."

1802.

"Feb. 17.—The Worshipful and the rest of the Bretheren took into Consideration the loss Bro. Walker had sustained by reason of the felony lately committed upon him, and therefore ordered that the Treasurer do pay unto him the sum of 4 Guineas out of the fund."

1802.

"June 1.—Ordered by the Worshipful Master and the rest of the Brethren that Bro. Entwistle do provide a good cushion, and other things, proper for the procession on St. John's Day next."

1802.

"July 14.—By the Worshipful Master, Wardens, and the rest of the Brethren of this Lodge it was ordered, that a meeting to hear a Lecture on Masonry every other Sunday, the first lecture to commence on Sunday, the 18th of July instant,

at Bro. John Taylor, Red Lion i'th' Wiend, at five o'clock in the evening, every Bro. to spend sixpence, and half-a-guinea out of the Lodge cash."

1803.

"Feb. 16.—The Worshipful gave good and right orders to each other not to mention whatever passes in the Lodge."

1803.

"June 29.—It was unanimously agreed that the money be left in the Treasurer's hands as usual, he paying 5 per cent. for the same, and as often as the sum of £5 comes into his hands that he allow also interest for the same from that time but no less amount than £5."

"It was then agreed that Bro. G. be allowed 10s. 6d., and if necessary requires 5s. per week afterwards out of the charity money."

1804.

"June 20.—Bro. Yearsley's letter from Bolton was taken into consideration, He having a great loss by the flood on Thursday, 3rd of May, 1804. The Worshipful Master and the whole concluded to give him a present of Two Guineas."

1806.

"Feb. 26.—By the unanimous consent of the Worshipful Master and the rest of the Brethren of this Lodge, that a one pound note be sent to the Grand Secretary to the General Fund at Lloyd's for the Relief of the Widows and families of those brave men who may suffer in the country's cause during the war. It was also agreed in the Lodge that a twenty shilling note be sent to Bro. B. late of this Lodge but now in the Castle of Lancaster, confined for debt."

1806.

"May 20.—It was ordered that St. John's Day be kept, June 25th, 1806, and every Member pay 2s. for Dinner, and the sum of £3 to be spent in Liquor, any Member calling for Liquor after the above sum be finished to pay for it out of their pocket."

1807.

"Sep. 16.—The Regulations of the H.R.A. were read over, &c."

1812.

"Jan. 22.—The Secretary read the Lecture on Secrecy of Masonry."

1812.

"May 20.—Ordered by the Worshipful Master, &c., that the St. John's Day be held on the 24th day of June, & to have a Cold Round of Beef Roasted and Roots provided by the Landlord for supper."

1812.

"Sep. 16.—The Craft proceeded to their regular works of the Masonic kind, when Bro. G. petitioned for relief in the time of his distress when he received satisfaction."

1814.

"Feb. 2.—The Worshipful wishing to take in the Brothers names in order to take the Night Templars Degree."

The first encampment appears to have been held in 1792, when Thos. Doncaster, Richd. Holmes, and others were admitted into the most noble order of Knight Templars, and afterwards enrolled in the Grand order of Knights of Malta. The encampment was formed at intervals until April 19th, 1824, after which date I can find no record.

1814.

"June 1.—After the Election of new Officers the Lodge then took the consideration for a procession on the 13th of July next, and put the Orders of the Management of the Day by the Authority of the Three Masters of the Different Lodges of this town."

From this it will be seen that there were three Lodges in the town at this time, and among the papers of the Lodge I found the following circular :

Wigan Masonic Union.

"We, whose names are hereunto subscribed, being the Masters of the respective Lodges set opposite our names, have by and with the Approbation of all our Worthy Officers and Brethren convened, at a Meeting held for the purpose of taking into Consideration the most effectual means of holding a Feast and Procession, in order to promote true Friendship and brotherly Love, resolved—

That a Meeting for that Purpose will be holden on  
 the                      Day of                      next, when a Sermon  
 will be Preached on the Occasion, at the Parish Church, we  
 therefore request you will communicate these our Intentions  
 to all the Members of your Body, and signify (by post) on  
 or before the                      of                      what  
 number can attend upon the Occasion; and at the same  
 Time point out the Number of Visitors for each Lodge, in  
 order that proper accommodation may be arranged for  
 each Lodge, for the comfort of its respective attendants.

JOHN FINCH, W.M., No. 294, Queen's Head.

RALPH BALL, W.M., No. 402, Ring of Bells.

WILLIAM LAYLAND, W.M., No. 74, Bear's Paw.

Wigan

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"N.B.—It is requested each Member will attend at eight  
 o'clock in the morning, at the different Lodges, with plain  
 white Lamb Skin Aprons, and white Gloves only."

No. 294 is our present Lodge of Antiquity.

No. 402.—Ring of Bells.

This Lodge was originally No. 492 Lodge of Sincerity, and held  
 its Warrant under the "Moderns" Grand Lodge, or, the parent  
 Grand Lodge of English Masonry, bearing date November 30th,  
 1786, and was consecrated at the Buck i'th' Vine. In the year 1792,  
 at the re-numbering of the "Moderns" Lodges it was altered to  
 No. 402 and was held at the Ring of Bells. Previous to the Union  
 no mention is ever made in our Minute Book of this Lodge, but  
 afterwards they appear to have worked in harmony together.

In the year 1821, Novr. 17th, a circular was received from the  
 P.G.S., summoning the Master and Brethren to a P.G. Lodge, in  
 which the following notice occurs :

"I am further commanded to inform you, in consequence  
 of a Circular having been sent to the different Lodges  
 in the County, signed by members of several Lodges, calling  
 a Meeting in Liverpool on the 26th inst., that the same is  
 declared illegal by the R.W.P.G.M., and you are hereby  
 cautioned against paying attention to the Contents of the  
 Circular, or of any other Documents, which you might

receive without the sanction of due and proper authority. I am finally commanded to inform you, that by nature of the Authority of the R.W.P.G.M., Lodge 31 in Liverpool, and Chapter thereto attached, are suspended until communication to the contrary be made to you,

I remain,

W.M.,

Yours fraternally,

H. F. JAMES,

P.G.S. for Lancashire."

Notwithstanding this, the Meeting in Liverpool was held and an appeal was issued, dated,

"Liverpool, 6 Nov., 1822,

Castle Inn, North.

"To the Lodges constituting the United Grand Lodge of Antient Free and Accepted Masons of England, against the late Resolutions of that part of the Grand Lodge, held in London, &c., &c., &c."

This appeal was signed by the W.M., and eight Brethren of the Lodge No. 486, Wigan. A copy of it will be found amongst the papers of the Lodge.

In the year 1822, No. 31, Liverpool, was erased from the List of Lodges and its warrant forfeited, and all the Brethren who signed the Appeal were suspended, except those who petitioned the G.M. to be reinstated. In this Circular there are the names of twelve Brethren of 486, three of them were reinstated.

In 1828 a Circular was received from the P.G.S., dated Liverpool, March 20th; and on the fly sheet the following appears:—

"Dear Sir and Bro.,—"I am desired by the R.W. Deputy P.G.M., to request you to hand the enclose Letter to the W.M.P.M., or Wardens of Lodge No. 486, and to inform the Brother to whom you deliver it, that unless this summons be attended to, the Lodge will be reported to the next G. Lodge, recommending its erasure and the forfeiture of its Warrant for contempt of summons."

On the 5th of March, 1828, at a Grand Lodge in London, Lodge of Sincerity No. 486, Wigan, Lancashire, with fifty-eight others

were erased out of the Books of the Grand Lodge, and their Warrants declared forfeited. But although struck off the roll, it is a very curious circumstance and worthy of notice that the Lodge has been held regularly, on the "Monday nearest to the Full Moon, until the present day, and is at present held at the King's Head, in the Market Place, and known as a Spurious Lodge. It has changed its place of meeting many times. The room in which it now meets is an ordinary public house room, used on Market days, and on all the furniture appears the name and number of the Lodge as it was when struck off, namely, Lodge of Sincerity No. 486. This Lodge has about fifty members with a Sick and Burial Society in connection with it, and a considerable sum of money invested. Its members work the Arch Degree and have a Knight Templar Encampment.

I found among the papers of our Lodge, a Circular headed, "Royal Arch Grand Chapter of Temperance, Buck i'th' Vine, No. 65;" and from a work on Freemasonry in the Reference Department of the Wigan Free Library, I ascertained that it was held the last Sunday in the month. I have no doubt, therefore, that this was a Chapter held in connection with this spurious Lodge No. 486.

In 1789, James Rigby, a Member of Lodge No. 492, became Tyler of Lodge No. 235, showing, at all events, that the latter Lodge held the foremost position in the town.

It has been, as I said before, the opinion of many of our Members that this Lodge in some way obtained a Warrant of earlier date than the one we now have, and that our present Warrant is not the original one granted to the Lodge; this however, I declare to be quite erroneous. We have seen that in the early part of the year 1786 a few Masons in Wigan, with the assistance of the Bolton and Manchester Lodges, petitioned and obtained a Warrant from the "Antients" Grand Lodge of England, and that a Lodge was held at the Queen's Head. In November of the same year another Warrant was obtained under the "Moderns" Grand Lodge, and was held at the Buck i'th' Vine, so that the former is about six months the older Lodge. The date of their Warrant is here given on the authority of Bro. S. H. Clarke, G.S. of England, I hope, therefore, from what is now stated that the erroneous opinions respecting these two Lodges will be for ever dispersed.

These Brethren have an idea that from some cause they seceded from the Grand Lodge of England more than one hundred years ago, but this is quite incorrect. I do not think there can be any doubt that had they not been led astray by this No. 31 Lodge, Liverpool, they would have paid their fees to the Grand Lodge of England, and to the P.G.L., and have been on the Roll to this day.

Lodge 74, Bear's Paw.

This Lodge was constituted in London, June 14th, 1756, and was removed to Wigan in the year 1805. The original number was 54 and was that of an "Atholl" Lodge; I cannot find in any of the works I have consulted, any name of this Lodge, but amongst the papers of our own Lodge I found two seals, and the name thereon inscribed is Lodge of Integrity No. 74.

From Gould's Works on the "Atholl Lodges" it appears that No. 12, St. David's, London, constituted in the year 1752, sold its Warrant to Lodge No. 54, for one guinea, in 1756.

The reason this Lodge was removed to Wigan, I think, will be found in the following:—We possess a copy of a Letter, dated Octr. 2, 1805, sent to the Grand Secretary, in which the writer states—"That the present master and several brethren had been meeting weekly at the White Horse, for a considerable time for, as they called it, "Lodges of Instruction," tho' they had at all times free access to this Lodge, and at a Lodge of Emergency, when only eight or nine brethren were present, got up a petition for a new Warrant."

These petitions procured the support of the Lodges 303 and 196, Bolton, and also of the Chorley Lodge.

At the next Regular Lodge meeting the W.M. was asked if he had brought with him the petition, which he had said would be brought forward that night, but he answered he had none. The minutes then proceed: "Was asked if a Petition had been sent to the Grand Lodge, he answered no, said they had taken an unlawful measure in endeavouring to obtain a new warrant without first mentioning it, said his name had been sent to London without his knowledge and wished to continue a member of this Lodge."

Letters were written to the various Lodges whose members had supported this petition explaining the circumstances, and they withdrew their support. Unable, therefore, to obtain a New Warrant they succeeded in getting No. 54 removed to Wigan.

"Nov. 6, 1805. Four letters from Bros. Lisle and Harper concerning the warrant No. 54 granted them, were read." After the union of the two Grand Lodges they were working in harmony with Antiquity, and the Lodge was held at the Unicorn Inn.

Nine of the Brethren of Lodge No. 74 signed the Appeal to the G. L. respecting Lodge No. 31, Liverpool, and none of them petitioning to be reinstated they were all struck off. This appears to have given the death blow to the Lodge; they were never afterwards heard of, and were erased out of the books of the G. L. of England and their Warrant declared forfeited.

There are but twenty-seven names to this appeal and seventeen of them belong to these two Wigan Lodges. I have no doubt that this Liverpool squabble was the cause of their ceasing to pay their fees to the Grand Lodge, and was in fact the true reason they were struck off the Roll. Antiquity took the advice of the P.G.M., and had nothing whatever to do with them.

When John Finch signed this circular issued by the Masonic Union, he did so as W. M. of the oldest Wigan Lodge. Had No. 74 been in existence to-day it would have been one of the oldest Lodges in Lancashire. Anchor and Hope, Bolton, originally No. 33, is actually the most ancient, having been constituted in the year 1732, fifteen years after the Grand Lodge was formed.

1815.

"June 5.—Lodge of Emergency or the Festival & Procession. After the business, the Brethren then visi'd from the Lodge 74, and a Bro. from Liverpool took the chair, when songs and toasts came forward."

1815.

"Sep. 13.—Bro. Bullock closed the Lodge from 74 in the new orders."

1816.

"May 6.—The W.M. caused a Poll through the Body for some unlawful language and defamation put upon the Body by the Landlord of this house, when there appeared for a removal from the Queen's Head eight in a majority."

1816.

"May 10.—Prescott Corless, the Landlord, begs pardon, and the Lodge remains."

1816.

"Dec. 25.—When No. 74 called upon us to collect for Bro. Bullock, confined in the Castle of Lancaster for Debt, when there appeared 10s. 3d., and 10s. out of the fund, towards relief."

1817.

"May 26.—The Lodge agreed that every Bro. for the future must attend with White Neck Handkerchief and decent apparel, under the penalty of what the Lodge may think proper to charge the same with."

1818.

"April 1.—Opened the Lodge at nine o'clock in the morning, when the Lodge proceeded to the funeral of Bro. Ambros Park, a Member of Lodge No. 402, when in conjunction with the other Lodges proceeded to the Interment of the same, when Due Honour was paid to his Last Remains."

1819.

Feb. 20.—Lodge of Emergency.

On this evening Three Brethren were Initiated, Passed, and Raised, and each taken through the various degrees separately.

1819.

"Mar. 8.—The Lodge from the Ring of Bells gave the new opening and closing system of Masoury."

1819.

"Aug. 30.—Charles Ashurst petitioned the Lodge to become a Member of this Body. The only objection was that he was Discharged from the Orange Society, he stated the charge and upon the conclusion was admitted."

1821.

"July 1.—A motion was made whether St. John's was postponed from the 9th Day to his Majesty's coronation or not."

1821.

"July 19.—Joseph Woodcock was paid for ale had by the Body 17s. 4d. when passing the New Commercial Hall."

1821.

"Aug. 13.—The W.M. was suspended from the chair and expelled from the Lodge for six months."

A very painful occurrence, which now a days could hardly happen.

1822.

"Nov. 25.—Bro. Walker was appointed Relieving Master."

1823.

"Feb. 26.—For some unbecoming business Bro. A. was suspended from Lodge No. 294 for the space of 999 years."

1823.—St. John's.

"Dec. 25.—It was agreed that Bro. Walker should give the Body his whole property as security for the money in his hands."

1825.

"Oct. 24.—It was the agreement of the Lodge that Bro. Thos. Walker be deputed to wait upon the Provincial at Manchester with regular charges for the same."

1826.

"Dec. 11.—The Antient Festival of St. John to be commemorated on the 25th inst., *alias* Christmas day."

1827.

"Feb. 21.—Lodge of Emergency. The W.M. then proceeded to read a dispensation granted them by the P.G.M. informing him that he might go in procession to the funeral of Bro. W. W., which was accordingly done."

1827.

"June 4.—The W.M. moved for a Committee for investing the funded money in the hands of Messrs. Thickness & Woodcock's Bank."

1827.

"Aug. 6.—A motion being made that the fund of this Lodge No. 294, shall Not be Divided while there is one Member against and Sixpence in the fund."

1827.

"Oct. 29.—The W.M. and a P.M. were expelled for robbing the Chest of £13 6s. 6d."

Another extraordinary and disgraceful minute; some time afterwards they refunded the money and were re-admitted.

1828.

"Mar. 31.—A motion being made that the Treasurer be waited on by two or three members of this Lodge to solicit him for the purpose of going to the Bank, or otherwise to give the book up to the Body, and on his refusing to comply with the same resolutions, the W.M. and officers have power to get a special Summons for him."

1828.

"Aug. 10.—The W.M. proposed that five pounds to be lent to G. B. to enable him to send for his son from America & to be stopt out of his salary which is 26 shilling p. year, & if it should please God to visit G. B. with Death, he is agreeable for the sum then remaining to be stopt out of his funeral, so that the body shall not suffer any loss."

G. B. was Secretary of the Lodge.

1829.

"Jan. 19.—The W.M. made a motion that for the future there should be no relief given to any Person except on a Lodge Night, which was unanimously agreed too."

1829.

"Feb. 16.—A motion was made and seconded that the Bye-Laws be put in force respecting the fines for non-attendance."

1829.

"June 15.—The Initiation fee is raised to Three Guineas."

1829.

"Dec. 25.—Annual Festival of St. John. After the Lodge closed the Members partook of a very elegant entertainment provided by the Landlord of the house."

1830.

"July 5.—The Worshipful Master made a motion for a new Flag to be provided for the Body, & seconded by Bro. T. B., which was carried with a large Majority, and orders were given to Provide one to be ready for the Coronation of King William the Fourth."

Instead of purchasing a New Flag the old one was repainted and the number altered, and it bears evidence to the fact in the successive alteration of the numbers, first from 235 to 294 and then to 207, its present one. There can be no doubt that this Flag is the one which originally cost £8 8s. 0d. in 1787. An exact copy of it will be found as a frontispiece to this book.

In the Treasurer's book I found an item regarding this matter. "August 1st, 1787, paid to Bro. Entwisel for a New Banner, £8 8s. 0d." I also found among the papers the following account, settled.

"Wigan, 24th July, 1830.

Lodge of Antiquity, No. 294.

To James Smith, Dr.

To Painting Banner       -       -       -       -       £3 10s. 0d."

1831.

"Mar. 28.—Two Brethren were suspended for twelve months for disorderly conduct in Lodge."

1831.

"Aug. 22.—The W.M. proposed a procession should be formed on Thursday, the 8th September, in honour of his present Majesty's Coronation, which was unanimously agreed too. It was also Proposed that each member should appear in Black, with regulations, aprons, and White Gloves, in the Craft Orders to Turn Out with Bible, Jewells, & Hods, and a committee to be formed to Regulate and Prepare the Different Articles required on the occasion."

1831.

"Sep. 8.—A Procession being agreed to on the previous Lodge Night, the Body Moved out, Paraded the Principal Streets. When they Return'd to the Lodge Room, and partook of a Capital Dinner and other Refreshments. His Majesty's Health Drank with three Times Three, and Several other Toasts being Given in the Usual form."

1833.

"Feby. 4.—The last Quarterly communication being read, when it appeared that the Number of the Lodge was altered from 294 to 207."

1833.

"Sep. 23.—A motion being made that a fine of three pence each time of non-attendance be leved on the W.M., his two Wardens and Deacons, also the Secy., Treasurer, and Tyler are Subject to the above Fine, sickness Accepted."

1834.

"May.—In consequence of the Lodge Room being in an unfit State, Owing to Painting and Whitewashing, the Members assembled but did not Oppened (*Sic.*) the Lodge."

1834.

"Aug. 18.—A Motion being made that a Petition be Sent to P.G.L., to Hold their Next Meeting in Wigan, which was unanimously agreed too. At the next meeting, Sep. 15th, the motion was postponed to a future Period."

1835.

"July 6.—When it was proposed and seconded that the Tyler's Salary be discontinued until further notice, and that each member take a regular turn in that duty, and that the Secretary's Salary be reduced to one-half for the space of Twelve months, by his hone (*Sic.*) Proposal, when a vote of thanks was given to him for the above Proposaal."\*

1835.

"July 19.—A motion was carried that the Dues be advanced to 1s. 6d. per month in Liew of 1s. 2d. for the space of twelve months, also a motion was made and Unammously (*Sic.*) Carried that 1 penny be collected in adition to the above to defray the expence of a Tyler, should it be required."

1841.

"Mar. 31.—The Secretary proceeded to read a communication from London, issued by the Grand Lodge of England, calling upon all Masters of Lodges to inforce the Laws of the order, and as much as in them lies, promote the welfare of the craft in general and in their own Lodges in particular."

At this time the Lodge was in a very feeble condition. For many years no candidates, or very few, had been admitted, the minutes are very brief, simply giving a record of the Lodge having opened and closed.

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\*The defective spelling in these minutes has been exactly reproduced.

In 1843 there appears the first record of the Lodge petitioning the P.G.L. and G.L. for assistance on behalf of a late Bro.'s Widow.

1843.

"May 8.—A communication from Grand Lodge is read, announcing the Death of the Duke of Sussex, M.W.G.M. of England."

1844.

"July 29—Bros. Henry Miller and J. Greenwood were appointed to attend on the Invitation of the Preston Brethren, at celebrating the laying of the Foundation Stone of the Literary and Philosophical Hall to be built in that town."

1850.

"April 22—Bro. Hy. Miller having reported Bro. F. R., sick, say 4 or 5 weeks, he was allowed 20s. At the next meeting it was returned to the Lodge, the Bro. not having called for it as advised."

1851.

"8 Sept.—The Secretary announced the receipt of a letter from Bradford, requesting the attendance of the W.M., and as many of the Brethren as could make it convenient to attend the holding of a grand Lodge in Bradford aforesaid, on Monday, the 22nd inst., The Most Worshipful Grand Master the Earl of Zeatland having consented to preside on the occasion of laying the Foundation Stone of St. George's Hall in that town. Moved by Bro. Holmes & seconded by Bro. Caldwell, that on the above occasion Bro. Henry Miller, W.M. be deputed to attend the grand Lodge, to be holden in Bradford, on Monday, the 22nd inst., as the representative of the Lodge to the intent that due deference be paid to the M.W.G. Master for his great kindness and condescension in visiting the adjoining County and thereby giving the craft an opportunity so seldom available."

1852.

"June 21—Resolved unanimously that the Lodge of Antiquity, No. 207, held at the Queen's Head, Wigan, be removed to the house of Mr. Thos. Whiteside, Eagle and Child Inn, Wigan, aforesaid, & that R.W.P.G.M. be respectfully solicited to Grant a Dispensation for that purpose."

In accordance with the last minute a dispensation was obtained and the Lodge was removed to the Eagle and Child. No reason is assigned, but I have been informed it was about this time that the Queen's Head was pulled down and shops erected on the site. For a period of sixty-six years the Lodge had been held regularly at this house on the stated Lodge Nights, without a single break.

1852.

"Aug. 23.—Eagle & Child, Wigan. Regular Lodge Night. The Dispensation was read authorising the removal of the Lodge, and a Banquet held on the Happy occasion."

1856.

"Jan. 21.—Ten shillings was given to Bro. A., he having been sick a week, for which he returned thanks."

A few days after, this brother was killed by the explosion of a Boiler at a Cotton Mill; he had been a subscribing member thirty-eight years. At the next meeting a petition was sent to the G.L., on behalf of his widow, aged 70, and Twenty Pounds were received and given to her.

1856.

"Nov. 10.—The brethren of Ormskirk having presented to Lodge of Antiquity, No. 207, three platforms for the use of the presiding officers, it was unanimously agreed that Bro. Secy., do write them acknowledging their great and unmerited kindness. [Copy of Letter.] "Wigan, 15th November, 1856. Worshipful Master, Senior and Junior Wardens, and Brethren of Harmony, 845, Ormskirk. As in duty bound, we have to acknowledge the receipt of the platforms so kindly sent us, the superb elegance of which added to the bounteous spirit that presented them, have excited the gratitude and admiration of the Brethren of this Lodge. Overwhelmed with a sense of the obligation, and the urbanity and kindness evinced towards them, they feel the inadequacy of language to express their heartfelt sensation for your inexpressible favour. We therefore, in common parlance, must content ourself by begging the acceptance

of our most sincere, unfeigned and ineffable thanks for the boon bestowed upon us, and believe us to be in sincerity and truth, and in the bond of Fraternity ever.

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

For whom I am, very respectfully,

THOS. HOLMES, Hon. Sec."

We have these platforms at the present time, and their appearance scarcely warrants the extremely eulogistic terms of the letter. The Bro. Secy., was evidently not in the secret respecting them, for with the papers I found a letter from an Ormskirk Bro. to a Bro. of the Lodge, in which he states that the Lodge of Harmony having bought new platforms for their own use, have their old ones for sale, and if Antiquity is in want of platforms, if they would write for the price of them, he had no doubt they would present them. From the above we see that this was done.

1857.

"Feb'y. 2.—Bro. S. W., brought before the Brethren the very unhealthy state of the Lodge Room & declared his intention not to visit the Lodge again if a comfortable room could not be provided, as the health of the Brethren was endangered by it. A committee was appointed to confer with Bro. Whiteside at once on the subject and to arrange with him for a more suitable room for our increasing requirements."

1857.

"Mar. 9.—A communication is read from the P.G.S. in which he is desired by the R.W.P.G.M. to say, "I trust the Fraternity will be very cautious respecting the members who may be admitted into the various Lodges in the provinces, and that sobriety in everything may mark their proceedings; for Masonry should be held in higher view and estimation, than mere meetings for carousal; and, by temperate judgment, occupy a more eminent sphere than the clubs which are formed for society's sake only."

"The above laudable sentiments met the warm approval of all the Brethren present, and it was unanimously resolved that they should be recorded in the Minute Book."

1857.

"May 4.—A Banquet is held in honour of the opening of the New Lodge Room. Bro. Bold, W.M., presented a set of handsome rosewood working gavils for the use of the Lodge."

1857.

"July 6.—The Initiation fee is raised to Five Guineas."

1859.

"Jan. 17.—Bro. Bold presented to the Lodge a beautiful polished Ashlar, and the W.M. stated that Bro. Ingram had at his private expense re-bound the valuable holy Bible belonging to the Lodge."

1859.

"Feb. 14.—A communication was read from G. L. relative to converting the Freemasons' Tavern and other property in London into rooms and offices to be devoted exclusively to Masonry."

1859.

"Mar. 14.—It was unanimously resolved that the Brethren of this Lodge express no opinion to the G. L. relative to the converting of the Freemasons' Tavern and other property in London into rooms and offices to be devoted exclusively to Masonry."

1859.

"Apr. 11.—Bro. David Shaw, of 711, gave a most interesting and instructive Lecture on the principles of Masonry, for which the unanimous thanks of the Brethren were accorded to him."

1861.

"Oct. 14.—The W.M. informed the Brethren that he and P.M. Baines with the Secy. and S.D. had attended the P.G.L., and that P.M. Baines had the privilege of opening the Lodge to receive the P.G.L."

1862.

"July 7.—The Junior Warden was authorised to purchase new collars and to get the Lodge Jewels cleaned with the view

of the Lodge attending the Provincial Grand Lodge to be held on the occasion of the Preston Guild, and to take a fitting part in the festivities on laying the foundation stone of the new Public Hall of Preston."

1862.

"Dec. 1.—It was noted that the Grand Lodge of England had voted one thousand pounds to the general fund towards the relief of the distress in Lancashire."

1864.

"Jan. 26.—It was moved and seconded and carried unanimously—  
"That a Lodge of Instruction be formed under the warrant of the Lodge as provided for by the Book of Constitutions," notice of this motion having previously been given to every subscribing Brother."

By-Laws were adopted.

The Lodge of Instruction is now held the second Thursday in the month.

From this date to the present time there is little of interest besides the ordinary routine business.

In the year 1870, the Lindsay Lodge was formed by a number of the Brethren with the present Earl of Crawford and Balcarres as the first Master (he is still a subscribing Member of Lodge of Antiquity), and it is now a large and prosperous Lodge, and working in Love and Harmony with its mother Lodge.

In 1877 the Lodge removed to the Masonic Hall, King Street, and also the Chapter of Harmony in connection with it. Previous to that year many unsuccessful attempts had been made to remove from the Eagle and Child, the room was a most unsuitable one, and the money spent upon it from time to time would have gone a long way towards building a new Lodge Room. Committees were appointed to select a suitable room or consider the advisability of building one, but all to no effect, and it required a considerable effort to effect its removal. At last, after twenty-five years of discomfort and inconvenience this was accomplished, and the wonder now is how it could have been put up with so long.

The Lodge subscription remained 1s. 2d. per month until the year 1840, when it was raised to 1s. 4d. ; in 1857 it was 1s. 6d. per month; 1865, 25s. per annum; 1872, two guineas; in the same year it was reduced to 30s., which is the yearly subscription at the present time.

Formerly, before a candidate was elected, he had to petition the Lodge in proper form, I have found several of these curious petitions, and give a specimen.

“To the W.M., Wardens, and Brethren of Lodge No. 207 of Free and accepted Masons. The petition of the undersigned being free born, and of good report, respectfully sheweth that having long entertained a favourable opinion of your Antient Institution is desirous of being admitted a member thereof if found worthy, the tongue of good report having been heard in his favour.

His Residence is ——

His Age ——

His Occupation——

(Signature)——”

Whenever there was a candidate for the third degree, the Lodge was at once opened on the Third Step, and afterwards the ceremony closed on that step, and opened on the Second Step, and so on. The candidates for the second and third degrees always taking precedence. A newly initiated Brother invariably returned thanks in open Lodge for the honour conferred upon him.

Brethren were not allowed to leave the Lodge room for the purpose of refreshment except at the proper time, neither were they allowed to remain outside during the time the Lodge was being closed. Fines were imposed for a breach of these regulations.

The Monthly meeting previous to the Festival of St. John was called nomination night. The W.M. and all the Officers were elected by the Brethren. They held two St. John's a year. On June 30th, 1796, I find the expenses were £46 13s. 2d. For a great number of years the Festival was held on Christmas day, and sometimes on Sunday; the latter day seems to have been the favorite one for inspecting the accounts, and for Committee meetings generally. For many years the Lodge was fairly prosperous, and sometimes as many as Three and Four Lodges of Emergency were held between the regular Lodge nights.

It appears to have been the rule that whenever there was a candidate, a Lodge was summoned to elect him, and very often he was initiated and passed the same night, and sometimes taken as well through all three degrees.

The Members were not confined to any particular class ; men of all ranks and conditions of life will be found uniting in one common Brotherhood : Gent'n, Doctors, Lawyers, Clergymen, Yeomen, Manufacturers, Potters, Farmers, Stonemasons, Soldiers, Cordwainers, Botanists, Fustian Cutters, are so described in the list of members furnished from time to time to the Town Clerk.

Thomas Doncaster, the first Master, seems to have been chosen on account of his social position. He was always described as the Worshipful Thomas Doncaster, Esq., Master, he presided over the lodge six years, was very often absent on account of ill health, and when present very rarely took any of the ceremonies ; he was Mayor of Wigan in 1795 & 1798.

Thomas Walker, one of the founders of the Lodge described in the first minute of No. 23, Scotland, must certainly bear off the palm as a worker, having been a subscribing member for forty-three years ; his name appears in nearly the whole of the minutes for that period, taking the ceremonies and giving lectures upon the various degrees, acting for an absent Master, and taking the place of any absent officer in the Lodge. He was Master in 1799, 1823, and 1824, and was always selected to attend Provincial Grand Lodge.

1787.

On March 1st, at the consecration of the Lodge No. 238, Chorley, now extinct, Thomas Walker of No. 235, Wigan, was R.W. Senior Grand Warden.

1797.

On April 20th, at the consecration of the Lodge No. 303, Bolton, now 221, Thomas Walker, No. 235, Wigan, was again R.W.S.G.W. Previous to coming to Wigan he was an Arch Mason, and a Knight Templar, and I have no doubt he it was who first prompted Richard Holmes to go to Bolton to be made a Mason, in order that he might have a Lodge at his own house, and therefore we shall not be

far wrong if we award to Thomas Walker the honour of first introducing Masonry into this "Ancient and Loyal Borough.

Richard Holmes, the first Treasurer, held that office for forty years; he was never Master of the Lodge. In the Book of Constitutions there is a clause to this effect—"No Master of the Tavern or house at which the Lodge meets, shall hold any office in the Lodge without a Dispensation from the Grand Master or P.G.M."

I cannot find any such regulation previous to the Union; if it did exist, his was a case where a Dispensation might have been obtained to have enabled him to have filled one of the proudest positions in Masonry, that of Master of his Lodge. He was a very eccentric man, who had during his lifetime a coffin hewn out of a solid block of stone, and he lies buried in it in the grave-yard near the Wigan Parish Church.

Thomas Entwistle, Senr., was made Secretary in 1788, and held this office for over twenty years. All the time the books were in his hands the Lodge record was well kept and properly signed and will bear comparison with any Secretary's work since; he was made Master in 1797 and 1798. A few months before he died, his writing bears evidence of failing health, his hand is shaky and erratic. His last minute is signed Jany. 17th, 1810, and is the briefest he ever wrote, consisting of only four lines. "February 14th a Secretary was appointed in the place of Thomas Entwistle, deceased;" and not a word appears recorded in recognition of his long and faithful services.

Roger Anderton, George Caldwell, John Lawson, and Samuel Heeley were Masters who did good service to the Lodge in their days; when Samuel Heeley died a Dispensation was obtained for a Masonic Funeral, and he was buried with all the solemnity that could be shown to a departed Brother.

Thomas Bott was Secretary eleven years; his minutes were very brief, simply a record that the Lodge opened and closed, and they were seldom signed.

John Bolton was a good Master; he filled the chair in 1825, 1836, 1837, and 1838; he was 'made' in Galway, Ireland, in 1813, and was an Arch Mason, Mark, and White Cross, and on leaving Galway was dubbed a Knight of the Road. A certificate given him setting forth his many degrees and recommending him to all the faithful round the Globe, his travelling certificate and others, are among the papers of the Lodge.

The next two names are almost inseparable, and bring us down to times near our own. No two Brethren in the whole History of the Lodge have done more for it than Henry Miller and Thomas Holmes. The former was initiated in 1815, was Master the first time in 1820, and the last in 1856; he occupied the chair altogether thirteen years. Thomas Holmes was initiated in 1825, March 28th.

On June 27th, Bro. Thomas Holmes gave the Apprentice Lecture, and in November, the same year, signed as Senior Warden; he was Master in 1843 and 1844. These two Brethren worked long and faithfully together, Thomas Holmes acting as Secretary many years after passing the chair. The Lodge was then in its most depressed condition. Often they were unable to open the Lodge owing to there not being sufficient Brethren present to constitute one. The record is always signed by Thomas Holmes, although Henry Miller was Master for more years than any other Bro. in the History of the Lodge. It was Thomas Holmes, nevertheless, who was the guiding spirit, and their united enthusiasm held the Lodge together. When the former had been a Subscribing member fifty years he was made an Honorary Member, and in 1857 was presented with a Past Masters Apron and Leather Case, as a testimony of the appreciation of his services rendered to the Lodge for a long series of years. Bro. Holmes died in 1858, and a fitting tribute was paid to his memory. Bro. W.M. moved, and Bro. Henry Miller seconded, and it was unanimously resolved—"That this Lodge deplores the death of one of its oldest members, Bro. Thomas Holmes, who, for upwards of thirty years, at intervals, held the offices of Treasurer and Secretary, the duties of which he filled with much credit to himself, and satisfaction to the Craft, and at all times he proved himself a true and worthy Brother. It is the fervent hope of the Brethren of this Lodge, that Bro. Holmes has joined the Grand Lodge above, to reign with the Grand Architect of the Universe

in unbounded happiness for ever. Bro. Miller died in 1869, and was buried by the side of his old and beloved Brother in Hindley Churchyard."

They were both made Masons during the time of Thomas Walker and Richard Holmes, who were founders of the Lodge, and Bros. W. Bryham and L. R. Rowbottom, P.M., P.P.J.G.W. the oldest subscribing members, at present, were made in their time, and are at present the only connecting link between the Masons of the first and last quarter of this century. Bro. Rowbottom had many conversations with Henry Miller, who told him that often after walking from Hindley on the Lodge night, he would find himself, Thomas Holmes and another the only members present. He was a member fifty-four years, the longest period of any member in the history of the Lodge. At the time of his death, in fact not until 1878 is there any record of any Brother ever receiving Provincial Grand Rank.

To-day we have fourteen Past Masters of the Lodge, and four who have passed the chair of other Lodges, and the majority of them attend on every occasion.

It cannot truly be said, as we sometimes hear, that as soon as a Bro. passes the chair his interest in the Lodge ceases, for, in reality, the P.M.'s are the mainstay of the Lodge, regular in attendance, instructing at the Lodge of Instruction, advocating, and subscribing to the various charities, taking the ceremonies in the absence of a Bro. W.M., and some of them are capable of taking all the ceremonies both in Craft Masonry and Arch Masonry.

When the Lindsay Lodge, a few years ago, was in a very languishing state, they joined (by request) in order to work it up, and its present efficiency may in some measure be attributed to their efforts. Yet we see, year after year, younger masons promoted to Provincial rank, until we are led in utter amazement to ask—What are the qualifications for a Provincial Grand Officer?

Charity is the chief of every social virtue, and the distinguishing characteristic of the order. This has ever been kept in mind by the Lodge, the Treasurer's book from the first to the last page, showing it clearly—at the second meeting, even, they relieved a poor distressed Bro.

It is quite astonishing to see the number of travelling Brethren who sought and obtained relief in the early history of the Lodge. They arrived from all quarters, many from Irish Lodges, and a great number of them on their way to Scotland.

The Lodge for many years had in connection with it a Sick and Burial Fund, but the instances are very few indeed where its benefits have been participated in.

In more recent years the Lodge has always looked after its own cases of distress, and previous to 1860, rarely applied to the Grand Lodge or Provincial Grand Lodge for assistance.

The Lodge has now on its roll seventy-three members. The amount of ninety pounds has been sent this year to the various charities, ten of which was given by the Arch Chapter.

The W.M. for the time being is a Vice-President of the Boys' Institution in London, also of the West Lancashire Educational Institution, of which also, every Officer of the Lodge is a Life Governor.

At the present time we are greatly indebted to the latter Institution, having many children on its foundation.

In conclusion I trust the Lodge will press forward on its prosperous career, ever, as now, honouring itself by liberally supporting the Charities, and thus remaining a credit to the Ancient and Honourable Society of which it forms a part.



# APPENDIX.

## RULES

*and orders for the government of the brethren of Lodge No. 294,  
Queen's Head, Wigan. Dated 1822.*

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### RULE 1st.

That all the funded property belonging to the Lodge, shall be placed out at interest and good security given to the satisfaction of the brethren; the Master to have the charge and care of those matters.

### RULE 2d.

The deacons are appointed to visit all sick brethren within the compass of seven miles, and to bring in an account to the Master of any Brethren who are under pay.

### RULE 3.

If any Member fall sick, and having first paid all his dues and demands to the Lodge, shall immediately give notice to the nearest Deacon the time when his sickness commenced; the Deacon shall acquaint the Master the time when such sickness commenced, in order that the sick Brother may receive pay; the Master shall immediately cause the sum of 7 shillings per week pay'd to the said sick brother weekly, and every week so long as he, the said brother, shall continue to be sick.

1822, July 29, it was agreed by unanimous consent the sum of 5 shillings shall be continued until the next coming St. John's; consistent with 3d. rule.

### RULE 4.

Every application from any sick Brother shall be made to the deacon within seven days from the commencement of his sickness, but if the sick Brother neglect to notice the Deacon of the aforesaid seven days sickness, the said sick Brother shall not be entitled to the said seven days' allowance from the fund.

### RULE 5.

Every brother of this Lodge shall pay into the charity fund 6d. monthly, and every month (all officers included), from one St. John's to the next following, and if any brother or Brethren shall not have paid all dues and Demands into the Lodge, from one St. John's to the next following, he or they shall not be entitled to any Benefit belonging or arising from the charity fund.

### RULE 6.

That every Brother shall pay 6d. every month to be expended in Liquor (Except it be to whom the Master and body shall judge it necessary to exempt, viz: Visitors, &c.) nor shall length, distance of place, or matter of concern hinder or free any member, or in neglect or default thereof shall be subject to the fifth rule.

#### RULE 7TH.

If any brother, once a member regularly made and raised in this Lodge, having withdrawn himself from this body, and having Previously paid all dues and demands into this Lodge, and wishing to be re-admitted again must first give notice upon a regular Lodge night one month before admittance, in order the Master and body may Consider over the matter, and if admitted he shall pay into the Charity fund the sum of 5 shillings, and any other point or matter or consideration shall be final by a majority of members present; neither shall a re-admittance be allowed to any one whose age exceeds 45 years.

#### RULE 8TH.

If any member belonging to, or having been made and raised in any other body, and wishing to be a subscriber to and receive benefit from the said fund, he shall pay into the Charity fund the sum of £1 1s., and any other point or matter shall be final by a majority of members present, but notice must be given according to the seventh rule.

#### RULE 9TH.

That upon the death of any member of this body, who, having Discharged all Demands according to these rules shall be allowed the sum of £5 towards his funeral, which said allowance shall be paid to his Widow or Children for the same, with the following Considerations (viz.) Every member shall pay towards such funeral the sum of one shilling each out of their own pockets, and if the said one shilling each fall short of the funeral allowance the Master shall cause such sum or sums of money to be applied from the Charity fund, which with, when added to the aforesaid Contribution amount to £5, in order the Deceased may be interred Decently.

#### RULE 10TH.

It is likewise further agreed by this body that all the regular Lodge meetings shall begin Exactly at 6 o'clock in the Evening and Close the same at half-past 9 o'clock winter and summer (Except urgent business requires), then in every such case the allowance shall not exceed Ten o'clock, otherwise the business shall be postponed till further orders.

#### RULES 11TH.

It is likewise agreed that the Secretary shall furnish the Master with a list of all subscribing members from one St. John's to the next coming; of all members who are liable to receive pay, according to these Rules set forth for that purpose, in order, when application being made, the Master may relieve the sick according to these Rules.

#### RULE 12.

That upon every Lodge night (St. John's included), the Deacons or some person or persons shall be authorised to take the charge of the liquor and keep account of the same, and bring the account unto the Junior Warden in order they may be Discharged.

## RULE 13.

That the Secretary shall read up these rules and likewise all incomes and Disbursements, every 3 months, belonging to this Lodge.

## RULE 14.

That this Lodge, when Duly Congregated, shall have power to make, to amend, to revise, Correct, and to make new any Rule, and added to these if they are judged insufficient.

These rules and orders, with the amendments, shall remain in full force and virtue, as witness our hand this 1st Day of July, 1822.

*These Rules are signed by thirty-seven Brethren.*

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*Copy of Letters at the end of First Minute Book.*

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As we have received information from several Lodges in the Country that reports have been propagated by persons hostile to the Interest of our Ancient Craft, stating that our R.W. Grand Master, the Marquis of Antrim, was not in Truth our Grand Master, but that his name was only assumed, with several other aspersions equally false, The R.W. the Grand Lodge to obviate these calumnies have Resolved to transmit to the Lodges in the Country who from their distance from the Grand Lodge was most subject to be imposed upon by such reports, extracts from the R.W. Dep. G. Master's letter to his Lordship and his Lordship's answer thereto, which they hope will prevent the Brethren from being misled by misrepresentations in future.

*Extract of a Letter from The R.W. Mr. James Perry, Dep. G.M., to the R.W. Marquis of Antrim, G.M. of Masons in England ; dated 6th December, 1790.*

Your Lordship will forgive me for intruding further on your Lordship's time by communicating to you a fact which, I have no doubt, never came to your knowledge. In the Publications of the Society of Modern Masons Your Lordship's name is mentioned as having contributed a Large Sum to their fund of Charity.

This is held forth as a disputing circumstance to the Ancient Masons of the Country who have no means of knowing its falshood. And I therefore presume to solicit your Lordship's permission to contradict an assertion which materially affects the Craft in England.

*Extract of his Lordship's Letter in answer to the above ; dated "Glenarm Castle, Decr. 15th, 1790."*

In respect to what you mention relative to the Modern Masons I am to inform you that I never was in a Lodge with them but once, and that was in the year 1776, at the Adelphi Tavern, when the Duke of Manchr. was said to be their G.M., but who did not appear. At that time I did not know of any distinction between them & us or the Origin of it. There was a subscription going for the purpose of building a Free Mason's Hall, to which I subscribed Twenty Guineas ; I conceived this was for the use of all the Fraternity, not knowing of any schism amongst Masons.

I was made at Oxford when a student there, according to the form of Ancient Masons, from whom I never did nor ever will swerve. I am to inform you that in consequence of my subscription I was presented with a Silver Medal, and it was not until years afterwards that I knew there was any difference as Ancient & Modern Masons.

I hope I have given you that information which you wished upon the above subject, I beg my sincere good wishes to all the Brethren, &

I am, Dear Brother, Yours and all the Fraternity's

Most Obliged & Most Sincere Humble Sert.,

(Signed), ANTRIM, G.M.





Wigan, 31st Aug. 1799.

A Copy of the Duplicate Given into the Hands of Mr. James Taylor, Deputy Clerk for the County of Lancaster.

Of Members called York Masons, under the Sanction of that Most Noble and Puissant Prince, John, Duke, Marquis and Earl of Athol, Marquis and Earl of Tullibardine, Earl of Strathsay, and Strathardle, Viscount Ballquider, Glenalmond, and Glenlyon, Lord Murray, Belveny, and Gask, Heritable Constable of the Castle of Kincleaven, Lord of Man and the Isles, and Earl Strange, and Baron Murray of Stanley, in the County of Gloucester, &c., &c., Grand Master of Ancient Lodge No. 235, Held on Wednesday, on or before the full moon, at the house of Richard Holmes, Queen's Head, Wigan, at 7 o'clock in the Evening.

NAMES.	OCCUPATIONS.	RESIDENCE.
Thos. Walker ... ..	Cordwainer ... ..	Wigan.
Rd. Holmes ... ..	Victualler{ ... ..	do.
Thos. Entwisle... ..	Print. & Engravr. ..	do.
J. Dawson ... ..	Chk. Manf. ... ..	do.
John Taylor ... ..	Victualler ... ..	do.
Joseph Gaskell ... ..	Botanist ... ..	do.
Jas. Taberner ... ..	Cottn. Weaver. ... ..	do.
Ed. Darbshire . ... ..	do. ... ..	do.
Wm. Brooks ... ..	Cottn. Manf. ... ..	Pemberton.
John Lawson ... ..	Fustian Cutter ... ..	Wigan.
Js. Scott ... ..	Chk. Manf. ... ..	do.
John Scott ... ..	Chk. Manf. ... ..	do.
Ths. Bains... ..	Victualler ... ..	do.
— — — — —	do. ... ..	do.
Ths. Ascroft ... ..	do. ... ..	do.
Rt. Rimmer ... ..	Joiner ... ..	do.
Js. Taylor ... ..	Currier ... ..	do.
Js. Brown ... ..	Reed Maker ... ..	do.
The Revd. Js. Pope ... ..	.....	Liverpool.
Fras. Sherrington ... ..	Taylor ... ..	Wigan.
Math. Seddon ... ..	Corn Dealer ... ..	Hindley.
Js. Rigby ... ..	Pewterer ... ..	Wigan.

N.B.—We have two extra meetings in the year, namely: St. John's, one kept on the 24th of June or thereabouts, the other on the 27th December, or nearly, every year.

The above was given into the hands  
Mr. Rt. Pinnington, Town Clerk of  
Wigan.

JAMES DAWSON, SEC'Y.

Borough of Wigan, in the }  
County of Lancaster. }

**W**e, the under-written, Thomas Walker, of Wigan, aforesaid, Cordwainer, and Richard Holmes, of the same place, Victualler, two of the Members of the Lodge of free Masons, held at the house of Richard Holmes, within the said Borough, called the Ancient Royal Arch Lodge, and being No. 235 in the List of Ancient Lodges, do hereby pursuant to an act of the thirty-ninth year of his puissant Majesty, intituled "an Act for the effectual Suppression of Societies established for seditious and treasonable purposes and for better preventing treasonable and seditious practices, certify upon Oath that the said Society or Lodge, of which we are respectively members as aforesaid, hath, before the passing of the said Act been usually held under the Denomination of a Lodge of Ancient Free Masons, and in conformity to the Rule prevailing among the Societies or Lodges of free Masons in the Kingdom.

Sworn at the Borough of Wigan in the County of Lancaster  
the second day of September, in the Year of our Lord One  
Thousand Seven Hundred and Ninety-nine, before me, one  
of his Majesty's Justices of the Peace in and for the said  
Borough.

THOS. WALKER.

THOS. DONCASTER.

RICH. HOLMES.

The above is a fare Copy, which is Lodged in the Hands of Mr. Robt. Pinnington, Town Clerk of Wigan.





## WORSHIPFUL MASTERS,

*With Senior and Junior Wardens of Lodge of Antiquity, No. 178, Wigan,  
from day of Consecration until the present time.*

---

June 21st, 1786. Thomas Doncaster, W.M.  
William Rogers, S.W. Wm. Bradley, J.W.  
Decr. 27th, 1786. Thos. Doncaster, W.M.  
Wm. Rogers, S.W. P. R. Maddock, J.W.  
May 28th, 1787. Thos. Doncaster, W.M.  
P. R. Maddock, S.W. John Bent, J.W.  
Decr. 24th, 1787. Thos. Doncaster, W.M.  
John Bent, S.W. Jas. Hawarden, J.W.  
June 16th, 1788. Thomas Doncaster, W.M.  
John Bent, S.W. Jas. Hawarden, J.W.  
December 29th, 1788. Thomas Doncaster, W.M.  
James Hawarden, S.W. William Hilton, J.W.  
June 25th, 1789. Thomas Doncaster, W.M.  
James Hawarden, S.W. William Hilton, J.W.  
Dec. 2nd, 1789. Thomas Doncaster, W.M.  
James Hawarden, S.W. George Rice, J.W.  
June 24th, 1790. James Hawarden, W.M.  
Robert McCombs, S.W. James Brown, J.W.  
Jany. 4th, 1791. James Hawarden, W.M.  
James Brown, S.W. John Halton, J.W.  
June 30th, 1791. Thomas Doncaster, W.M.  
James Whitehead, S.W. Roger Anderton, J.W.  
Dec. 7th, 1791. Roger Anderton, W.M.  
James Brown, S.W. John Halton, J.W.  
May 30th, 1792. James Brown, W.M.  
Robert McCombs, S.W. John Halton, J.W.  
Jany. 3rd, 1793. Thomas Doncaster, W.M.  
Roger Anderton, S.W. Joseph Langdale, J.W.  
July 11th, 1793. Joseph Langdale, W.M.  
Thomas Walker, S.W. James Whitehead, J.W.  
Jany. 2nd, 1794. James Whithead, W.M.  
Thomas Walker, S.W. John Taylor, J.W.  
July, 1794. James Whitehead, W.M.  
John Taylor, S.W. John Collins, J.W.

- Jany. 6th, 1795. William Hilton, W.M.  
                   John Taylor, S.W. John Collins, J.W.  
 July 1st, 1795. John Taylor, W.M.  
                   John Collins, S.W. James Seddon, J.W.  
 Jany. 6th, 1796. John Collins, W.M.  
                   Thomas Entwistle S.W. James Dawson, J.W.  
 July 20th, 1796. James Dawson, W.M.  
                   Joseph Gaskell, S.W. Henry Peet, J.W.  
 Dec. 1796. Henry Peet, W.M.  
                   John Taylor, S.W. James Whitehead, J.W.  
 June 24th, 1797. Thomas Entwistle, W.M.  
                   John Taylor, S.W. James Taberner, J.W.  
 Jany. 2nd, 1798. Thomas Entwistle, W.M.  
                   John Taylor, S.W. James Taberner, J.W.  
 June 27th, 1798. Thomas Entwistle W.M.  
                   John Taylör, S.W. James Taberner, J.W.  
 Jany. 7th, 1799. James Dawson, W.M.  
                   James Taberner, S.W. John Scott, J.W.  
 June 12th, 1799. Thomas Walker, W.M.  
                   John Scott, S.W. William Brooks, J.W.  
 Jany. 6th, 1800. James Scott, W.M.  
                   John Scott, S.W. James Taylor, J.W.  
 June 4th, 1800. John Scott, W.M.  
                   Joseph Gaskell, S.W. John Lawson, J.W.  
 Jany. 1801. John Scott, W.M.  
                   Joseph Gaskell, S.W. John Lawson, J.W.  
 June 24th, 1801. John Scott, W.M.  
                   Robert Rimmer, S.W. Edward Darbyshire, J.W.  
 Jany. 6th, 1802. John Scott, W.M.  
                   Robert Rimmer, S.W. Edward Darbyshire, J.W.  
 June 9th, 1802. Edward Darbyshire, W.M.  
                   George Caldwell, S.W. R. Howborough, J.W.  
 Jany. 4th, 1803. Robert Rimmer, W.M.  
                   George Caldwell, S.W. James Smith, J.W.  
 June 29th, 1803. James Smith, W.M.  
                   George Caldwell, S.W. Michael Morley, J.W.  
 Dec. 28th, 1803. George Caldwell, W.M.  
                   William Leyland, S.W. Henry Ascroft, J.W.  
 June 20th, 1804. William Leyland, W.M.  
                   Henry Ascroft, S.W. P. Howarth, J.W.  
 Dec. 27th, 1804. Thomas Ascroft, W.M.  
                   Peter Howarth, S.W. Robert Anderton, J.W.  
 June 12, 1805. Peter Howarth, W.M.  
                   John Lawson, S.W. Michael Morley, J.W.  
 Jany. 6th, 1806. John Lawson, W.M.  
                   Joshua Wood, S.W. Edward Darbyshire, J.W.

- June 25th, 1806. Joshua Wood, W.M.  
 Edward Darbyshire, S.W. Joseph McGraw, J.W.
- Jan. 6th, 1807. Edward Darbyshire, W.M.  
 Joseph McGraw, S.W. William Wigan, J.W.
- June 29th, 1807. John Mercer, W.M.  
 John Gregory, S.W. James Wilcock, J.W.
- Dec. 28th, 1807. James Wilcock, W.M.  
 Barker Breakall, S.W. William Cooper, J.W.
- July 6th, 1808. John Finch, W.M.  
 Charles Greenough, S.W. James Taylor, J.W.
- Jan. 25th, 1809. Charles Greenough, W.M.  
 James Taylor, S.W. William Cooper, J.W.
- June 27th, 1809. James Taylor, W.M.  
 William Cooper, S.W. William Caldwell, J.W.
- Jan. 3rd, 1810. William Caldwell, W.M.  
 William Bancks, S.W. John Burrows, J.W.
- July 11th, 1810. William Bancks, W.M.  
 Joseph McGraw, S.W. William Naylor, J.W.
- Dec. 5th, 1810. William Bancks, W.M.  
 Samuel Heeley, S.W. George Cowen, J.W.
- June 24th, 1811. William Naylor, W.M.  
 Samuel Heeley, S.W. George Cowen, J.W.
- Dec. 25th, 1811. Samuel Heeley, W.M.  
 George Cowen, S.W. Charles Ashurst, J.W.
- May 20th, 1812. Samuel Heeley, W.M.  
 Charles Ashurst, S.W. John Finch, J.W.
- Dec. 25th, 1812. George Cowen, W.M.  
 Charles Ashurst, S.W. John Finch, J.W.
- July 7th, 1813. George Cowen, W.M.  
 John Clark, S.W. Daniel Lamb, J.W.
- Dec. 25th, 1813. John Finch, W.M.  
 Joseph McGraw, S.W. Edward Topley, J.W.
- June 29th, 1814. John Finch, W.M.  
 Joseph McGraw, S.W. Edward Topley, J.W.
- Dec. 27th, 1814. Joseph McGraw, W.M.  
 John Lawson, S.W. William Morris, J.W.
- Jan. 10th, 1816. John Lawson, W.M.  
 William Morris, S.W. William Driver, J.W.
- Dec. 25th, 1816. William Morris, W.M.  
 William Reynard, S.W. John Marsden, J.W.
- Dec. 22nd, 1817. John Haseldean, W.M.  
 Joseph McGraw, S.W. Henry Miller, J.W.
- May 18th, 1818. John Lawson, W.M.  
 Joseph McGraw, S.W. Henry Miller, J.W.

- Jan. 11th, 1819. Joseph McGraw, W.M.  
Henry Miller, S.W. Thomas Fish, J.W.
- Dec. 27th, 1819. Henry Miller, W.M.  
Thomas Fish, S.W. James Daniel, J.W.
- Dec. 27th, 1820. Thomas Fish, W.M.  
James Daniel, S.W. Thomas Skidmore, J.W.
- Sep. 10th, 1821. William Wigan, W.M.  
James Daniel, S.W. Samuel Heeley, J.W.
1822. William Wigan, W.M.  
James Daniel, S.W. Samuel Heeley, J.W.
- Dec. 25th, 1822. Thomas Walker, W.M.  
Thomas Taberner, S.W. John Bolton, J.W.
- Dec. 25th, 1823. Thomas Walker, W.M.  
John Bolton, S.W. William Dickinson, J.W.
- Dec. 25th, 1824. John Bolton, W.M.  
William Dickinson, S.W. William Bancks, J.W.
- Dec. 26th, 1825. William Dickinson, W.M.  
William Bancks, S.W. Richard Wilding, J.W.
- Dec. 25, 1826. Richard Wilding, W.M.  
Thomas Holmes, S.W. Thomas Birch, J.W.
- Dec. 25th, 1827. John Bolton, W.M.  
John Lawson, S.W. John Apperton, J.W.
- Dec. 25th, 1828. John Lawson, W.M.  
John Apperton, S.W. James Daniels, J.W.
- Dec. 25th, 1829. John Apperton, W.M.  
Thomas Birch, S.W. John Danson, J.W.
- Dec. 25th, 1830. John Danson, W.M.,  
Thomas Occleshaw, S.W. Leonard Lumley, J.W.
- Dec. 31st, 1831. John Danson, W.M.  
Thomas Occleshaw, S.W. Leonard Lumley, J.W.
- Dec. 25th, 1832. Leonard Lumley, W.M.  
John Bolton, S.W. Timothy Johnson, J.W.
- Dec. 25th, 1833. Leonard Lumley, W.M.  
John Bolton, S.W. Timothy Johnson, J.W.
- Dec. 25th, 1834. Leonard Lumley, W.M.  
John Bolton, S.W. Timothy Johnson, J.W.
- Dec. 25th, 1835. John Bolton, W.M.  
William Caldwell, S.W. John Apperton, J.W.
- Dec. 26th, 1836. John Bolton, W.M.  
William Caldwell, S.W. John Apperton, J.W.
- Dec. 1837. John Bolton, W.M.  
William Caldwell, S.W. John Apperton, J.W.
- July 18th, 1838. Henry Miller, W.M.  
William Caldwell, S.W. John Almond, J.W.

- Jan. 28th, 1839. Henry Miller, W.M.  
William Caldwell, S.W. John Almond, J.W.
- Jan. 13th, 1840. Henry Miller, W.M.  
William Caldwell, S.W. John Almond, J.W.
- Jany. 4th, 1841. Henry Miller, W.M.  
William Caldwell, S.W. Thomas Holmes, J.W.
- Dec. 27th, 1841. Henry Miller, W.M.  
William Caldwell, S.W. Thomas Holmes, J.W.
- Dec. 26th, 1842. Thomas Holmes, W.M.  
William Caldwell, S.W. John Almond, J.W.
- Dec. 4th, 1843. Thomas Holmes, W.M.  
William Caldwell, S.W. John Almond, J.W.
- Feb. 17th, 1845. Henry Miller, W.M.  
Joseph Gaskell, S.W. James Barton, J.W.
1846. Henry Miller, W.M.  
Joseph Gaskell, S.W. James Barton, J.W.
- Dec. 28th, 1846. James Barton, W.M.  
Joseph Gaskell, S.W. George Pilling, J.W.
- Feb. 14th, 1848. James Barton, W.M.  
George Pilling, S.W. William Caldwell, J.W.
- Jany. 8th, 1849. George Pilling, W.M.  
Henry Miller, S.W. William Caldwell, J.W.
- Jany. 1850. George Pilling, W.M.  
Henry Miller, S.W. William Caldwell, J.W.
- Mar. 17th, 1851. Henry Miller, W.M.  
William Caldwell, S.W. James Barton, J.W.
- Jany. 1852. Henry Miller, W.M.  
William Caldwell, S.W. James Barton, J.W.
- Feb. 21st, 1853. Henry Miller, W.M.  
James Barton, S.W. Thomas Whiteside, J.W.
- Jany. 1854. James Barton, W.M.  
Henry Miller, S.W. Thomas Whiteside, J.W.
- Jany. 1855. James Barton, W.M.  
Henry Miller, S.W. Thomas Whiteside, J.W.
- Jan. 21st, 1856. Henry Miller, W.M.  
T. L. Bold, S.W. William Caldwell, J.W.
- Jany. 5, 1857. Thomas Lonsdale Bold, W.M.  
John Taylor Kearsley, S.W. John Henry Peck, J.W.
- Jan. 25th, 1858. John Taylor Kearsley, W.M.  
J. H. Peck, S.W. Edwin Baines, J.W.
- Dec. 27th, 1858. Edwin Baines, W.M.  
Joseph Ingram, S.W. Thomas J. Heaton, J.W.
- Jany. 2nd, 1860. Joseph Ingram, W.M.  
Thomas J. Heaton, S.W. L. R. Rowbottom, J. W.

- Jan. 21st, 1861. Thomas Joshua Heaton, W.M.  
L. R. Rowbottom, S.W. William Woods, J.W.
- Jan. 13th, 1862. L. R. Rowbottom, W.M.  
William Waddington, S.W. James Pickering, J.W.
- Jan. 7th, 1863. James Pickering, W.M.  
Jonathan Waddington, S.W. John Lamb, J.W.
- Dec. 29th, 1863. James Pickering, W.M.  
William Woods, S.W. John Lamb, J.W.
- Jan. 17th, 1865. John Lamb, W.M.  
James Gaskell, S.W. R. A. Harington, J.W.
- Jan. 2nd, 1866. James Gaskell, W.M.  
M. W. Peace, S.W. John Cadman, J.W.
- Jan. 22, 1867. Maskell William Peace, W.M.  
Thomas Milligan, S.W. J. R. Cook, J.W.
- Jan. 14th, 1868. Thomas Milligan, W.M.  
S. A. Oliver, S.W. J. Leach, J.W.
- Dec. 29th, 1869. Samuel A. Oliver, W.M.  
W. Swift, S.W. R. Kellett, J.W.
- Jan. 18th, 1870. John Leach, W.M.  
R. Kellett, S.W. H. Mayhew, J.W.
- Feb. 7th, 1871. William Swift, W.M.  
J. R. Cook, S.W. C. B. Holmes, J.W.
- Jan. 30th, 1872. John Lamb, W.M.  
C. B. Holmes, S.W. Edward Sale, J.W.
- Jan. 14th, 1873. James Rylance Cook, W.M.  
Edward Sale, S.W. Thomas Swarbrick, J.W.
- Jan. 6th, 1874. Charles Butler Holmes, W.M.  
Edward Sale, S.W. Charles Matthews, J.W.
- Jan. 20th, 1875. Edward Sale, W.M.  
Thomas Swarbrick, S.W. J. Phillips, J.W.
- Jan. 19th, 1876. Jonathan Waddington, W.M.  
William Hardy, S.W. John Preston, J.W.
- Jan. 17th, 1877. Jonathan Phillips, W.M.  
Samuel Dunsford, S.W. James Brindle, J.W.
- Jan. 16th, 1878. William Hardy, W.M.  
James Brindle, S.W. Thomas Milner, J.W.
- Jan. 15th, 1879. Samuel Dunsford, W.M.  
James Parker, S.W. George Airey, J.W.
- Jan. 21st, 1880. John Preston, W.M.  
Henry D. Croft, S.W. J. M. Ashurst, J.W.
- Jan. 21st, 1881. Henry D. Croft, W. Master.  
Thomas Milner, S.W. J. M. Ashurst, J.W.

# Lodge of Antiquity, No. 178, WIGAN.

## ROLL OF MEMBERS

FROM FORMATION, 1786.

### *Founders of the Lodge:*

BRO. THOS. DONCASTER, ESQ., WAS INSTALLED MASTER.

BRO. WM. ROGERS, SENR. WARDEN.

BRO. WM. BRADLEY, JUNR. WARDEN.

BRO. RICHARD HOLMES, TREASURER.

BRO. THOS. WALKER, SENR. DEACON.

BRO. JAMES MORT, JUNR. DEACON.

### *\* Joining Members.*

Initiated or Joined.	NAME.	Initiated or Joined.	NAME.
1786—June	James Mort*	1792—Mar. 29	Thos. Ormston
July 11	John Sumner	June 17	Joseph Langdale
Sep. 11	John Whitehead	Archd. Baxter	
" - "	James Rogers	1793—Mar. 27	John Taylor
" "	James Whitehead	1794—Jan. 15	John Collins.
" 16	Thos. Entwistle, junr.	" "	John Benson
" 26	Thos. Entwistle, senr.	Feb. 11	William Joyce
Oct. 2	William Hilton	Dec. 3	James Dawson
Nov. 17	Thos. Ditchfield	1795—Feb. 2	Joseph Gaskell
" 24	Thos. Smith	Mar. 4	Henry Peet
Dec. 4	Wm. Wilkinson	Apr. 29	William Holding
" 25	Geo. Rice	" "	William Liptrot
" 27	P. B. Maddock*	July 1	Richard Tomlinson
1787—Feb. 23	Ed. Holt Chapman	Octr. 28	John Mayoh
Apr. 13	Thos. Hilton	1796—June 29	James Taberner
" "	Richd. Barlow	Aug. 31	William Brooks
" "	John Green	Dec. 16	James Nugent
" "	John Pendlebury	" 25	James Scott
May 28	James Hawarden	" "	John Lawson
June 25	James Ditchfield	1797—Feb. 8	Edward Darbyshire
July 30	Thomas Lowe	1798—Jany. 2	Robt. Hoole
1787—Dec. 14	John Leyland	Mar. 28	James Lovatt,
1789—Aug. 5	James Brown	Sep. 19	Barker Dean
Sept. 2	John Halton	Oct. 8	John Hammon
" 30	Robert McCombs*	1799—Feb. 10	Thomas Ascroft
1791—Jan. 19	Roger Anderton	" "	Thos. Baines
June 15	Joseph Barker*	" "	James Taylor

*Roll of Members—contd.*

Initiated or Joined.	NAME.	Initiated or Joined.	NAME.
1799—Feb. 20	Robt. Rymer	1803—Sep. 14	Richard Hall
" " Apr. 9	John Scott	1804—Jany 25	John Gregory
Dec. 11	Revd. James Pope	" " Feb. 15	Wm. Wigan
1800—Jan. 22	George Caldwell	May 23	Robert Brixton
" " " "	John Ballard	Oct. 17	John Clark
July 2	Ely Yates	Nov. 14	John Finch
" " Sep. 2	James Platt	1805—Feb. 24	Benjn. Beach
" " " "	Robt. Howbrough	" " " "	John Rigby
1801—Jan. 28	John Green	Apr. 21	Thos. Monk.
Mar. 2	Ralph Wood	" " " "	Seth Rigby
Sep. 16	Richd. Turner	May 8	John Norris
" 20	Wm. Bridgewood	" 19	George Kingworth
" 27	John Glover	" " " "	Edward Eastham
Oct. 21	Randell Reay	June 17	Wm. Banks, junr.
Nov. 18	James Chaddock	" 23	Charles Greenough
" " " "	James Smith	July 4	John Miller
Dec. 16	Thomas Watson	Dec. 15	William Rawlinson
" " " "	Thos. Whittaker	1806—Feb. 16	James Taylor
" " " "	John Burchall	" 26	George Jones
" " " "	John Robinson*	Apr. 2	John Mulcaster
" 27	William Yates	June 25	Willm. Hallam
" " " "	John Glover	Sep. 24	Richd. Roby
" " " "	James Strickland	Dec. 24	Wm. Cooper
1802—Jan. 6	Thos. Burchall	" " " "	Richd. Berry
" " " "	James Robinson	1807—Jan. 21	John Daglish
" " " "	James Lowe	" " " "	Samuel Heeley
Feb. 17	Joseph Shepherd	Oct. 14	Wm. Caldwell
" " " "	Wm. Yates	1808—July 6	John Jackson
" 21	John Cooper	1809—Mar. 24	John Burrows
Mar. 17	William Leyland	Sep. 20	John Potter
" " " "	Joseph Winstanley	1810—Apl. 18	W. Naylor
May 12	James Rowe	Aug. 8	George Cowen
" " " "	Michael Morley	Oct. 10	Daniel Lamb
" " " "	Henry Ashcroft	" " " "	Patk. Mc.Dermot
" " " "	Richd. Ward*	1811—April 8	Chas. Ashurst
June 9	John Clash*	" " " "	John Hart
" " " "	James Fitcher	" " " "	Patrick Dowlin
" 20	Wm. Morris	June 5	Thos. Taberner
July 14	Peter Howard	1812—Aug. 19	Samuel Heyes
" " " "	John Mercer	1813—Dec. 25	John Bentley
Aug. 10	Joseph Cook	1814—Feb. 21	Ed. Topley
Sep. 8	Peter Howarth	July 17	John Lawson*
Decr. 8	Wm. Bell*	" " " "	Wm. Reynard
1803—Jany. 4	Jas. Robertson	" 24	James Wood
" 9	Andrew McGraw	" " " "	Wm. Finch
Feby. 2	Rd. Richardson*	1815—Mar. 5	Wm. Rainford
Mar. 2	Ed. Prescott	" " " "	John McGraw
Apr. 6	Jos. McGraw	Apr. 30	Henry Miller
" " " "	David Marshall	May 17	John Abbott
May 4	Robert Anderton	June 4	Thos. Ince
" " " "	Jos. Willgoose	July 19	Alexander Sharrock
June 9	James Willcock	Nov. 15	Wm. Driver
Sep. 14	Bartholomew Breckall	" " " "	Thomas Heyes
" " " "	Joshua Wood	" " " "	James Heyes
" " " "	Richd. Haslam	Dec. 13	Adam Jackson
" " " "	John Dolan	" " " "	Henry Heyes

*Roll of Members—contd.*

Initiated or Joined.	NAME.	Initiated or Joined.	NAME.
1816—July 8	John Bolton	1825—Feb. 28	Thos. Birch.
" " "	John Marsden	Mar. 28	Ed. Worthington
Dec. 25	Samuel Dickinson	" "	Thos. Holmes
1817—May 26	Thos. Fish	July 25	Ed. Whittley
July 26	Wm. Dickenson	Sep. 26	James Martlew
Nov. 17	James Daniel	Dec. 19	John Daniel
1818—Jany. 5	Thomas Holcroft	1826—Mar. 20	John Apperton
" " "	Wm. Rocklay	" "	Ralph Fairbrother
" " "	Wm. Houghton	May 15	Thos. Ockleshaw*
Feb. 16	John Almond	No. Dates.	Ricd. Wilding
Mar. 16	Wm. Robinson		Andrew McGraw
Apr. 20	Wm. Atherton		John McEwen
June 15	Thomas Rowland*		Jas. Kickwick
Aug. 10	George Daniel	1828—Jan. 28	Francis Whitehead
" 16	Thos. Skidmore	1829—Novr. 9	Abram Stretton
Sep. 27	Ed. Melling	Dec. 25	James Ackers
Nov. 9	Joseph Hague	1830—Aug. 2	Leonard Lumley*
1819—Feb. 20	Nicholas Heyes	" "	Thomas Briscoe
" " "	Shaw Ellison	" "	John Wood
" " "	William Hesketh	Nov. 29	Thos. Bott*
Mar. 8	James Hulbert	1831—Aug. 30	Joseph Heeley*
" 14	James Horton	1832—Aug. 6	Joshua Hampson*
June 7	Hugh Richardson	1833—Apr. 29	John Butcher
1820—Feb. 28	William Wilson	1835—Jan. 12	Lewin Schombart
" " "	Paul Melling	1840—Oct. 5	Thos. Holmes, rejoins
Mar. 27	Ricld. Daniel	1841—Feb. 1	Timy. Johnson
May 22	Wm. Hatton	" "	Jas. Greenwood*
June 26	James Daniel	May 5 "	Isaac Molyneux
" " "	John Mollineux	1842—Jany 24	Jas. Greenwood*
Nov. 20	Ralph Woodcock	Mar. 21	Joseph Gaskell
" " "	Thos. Forber.	June 20	Jas. Martlew
Dec. 18	George Rothwell	1844—May 26	Ricld. Ratcliffe
1821—Feb. 25	Joshua Hampson	July 29	Peter Wright do.
Oct. 28	Thos. Boardman	" "	Fatima " do.
Nov. 5	John Glover	Oct. 21	Jas. Barton
" " "	Thos. Wilson	Dec. 23	Geo. Pilling
Dec. 9	William Sharples	1845—Oct. 13	Thos. Birch, re*
" " "	John Merrix	1852—Sep. 27	John Cadman
1822—Apr. 28	Robt. Kay	" "	Thos. Whiteside
Dec. 23	Timothy Johnson	Nov. 22	Jas. Johnson Part
Dec. 25	James Willson	1855—Nov. 22	Thos. Lonsdale Bold
" " "	Joseph Willson	Dec. 17	James Wood
" " "	W. Lancaster	1856—Feb. 18	John Henry Peck*
1823—Jan. 19	John Danson	Feb. 18	John Kearsley*
" " "	Jos. Kickwick*	June 15	Wm. Bryham
Feb. 2	Robert Smallshaw	" "	Edwin Baines
" 24	Wm. Ascroft	Aug. 11	William Ainsworth
Mar. 9	Ricld. Molineux	Sep. 8	Thos. Joshua Heaton.
" " "	John Rookley	1857—May 4	Joseph Ingram
Mar. 30	John Ashurst	" "	John Timperley
1824—Apr. 12	John Forshaw	" "	Wm. Gaskell
" " "	James Barton	July 6	James Bimson
June 7	Thos. Green*	Nov. 2	Thos. Heald
" 24	James Green	" "	Thos. Knowles
Oct. 4	Geo. Atkinson	" "	Robt. Winstanley
Dec. 25	John Anderton	" "	

*Roll of Members—contd.*

Initiated or Joined.	NAME.	Initiated or Joined.	NAME.
1858—Mar. 29	Richd. Fogg Hopwood	1866—July 3	Jno. R. Nutter
" "	Michl. Saml. Leyland	Aug. 28	Wm. Dobb
" "	Lever R. Rowbottom	" "	J. H. Peck, re*
" "	Luke Foster Hooton	Oct. 30	Robert Kellett
June 21	John Anthony Taylor	Nov. 27	Chas. Butler Holmes
" "	James Johnson	" "	Geo. Dunsford
Sep. 20	Jonathan Waddington	" "	Saml. Dunsford
Oct. 18	Robert Rowbottom	" "	Wm. Hardy
1859—May 16	Alexander Kirk	1867—Jany. 3	Horace Mayhew
Sep. 12	William Wood	" "	Jas. Diggle
Oct. 10	John Marsden	" "	W. O. Meek
Dec. 5	James Pickering*	" "	Ludovic Lindsay*
" "	Jos. Gus. Steigmeier	Feb. 19	Edward Sale
" 19	Joseph Roper	Mar. 26	John Platt
1860—Mar. 5	William Waddington	" "	Thos. Barras
" "	Caleb Hilton	" "	John Gerard Rawes
Apr. 30	Thos. Monks	May 21	Thomas Shortrede
Nov. 26	Jas. Maclachlan	" "	John Laverick Watkin
" "	Richd. Swift	Nov. 12	Revd. Henry Evans
1861—June 17	Adam Banks	1868—Apl. 7	Thos. Wilson*
Aug. 19	John Johnson	" "	Arthur Mayhew*
1862—Jan. 13	John Hesketh	" "	Fredk. Yates
Feb. 10	James Savage	1869—Apl. 27	Robert Thompson
" "	John Lamb	Oct. 26	Robert Gregson
June 9	Richd. A. Farington	1870—Apl. 19	J. B. Fairhurst
1863—Jany. 5	W. A. Patterson, tyler	1871—Feb. 7	Thos. Swarbrick
Feb. 2	Jas. Rylance Cook	Mar. 7	Richd. Whiteside
Mar. 2	Edward Scott, Jun.	" "	James Smith
" "	Geo. Cox, Junr.	" "	Geo. B. Cumberland
" "	Thos. Fairhurst	Apl. 11	John Kane
Apr. 27	John Garrett*	" "	John T. Chamberlain
June 29	James Hurst	June 6	John Smith
Aug. 24	William Leech	Aug. 1	James Taylor
Sept. 21	Jas. Gaskell	Octr. 3	James Brindle
Nov. 21	Jno. Edw. D. Jameson	" "	Chas. Matthews
Dec. 1	Wm. Byrom	" 31	Wm. Lees
" "	Wm. Stanyer*	" "	John Clough
" 29	William Gerrard	Nov. 28	Wm. Birchall
" "	John Halliwell	1872—Jan. 30	John Jackson
1864—Feb. 23	Maskell Wm. Peace	Feb. 27	Timothy Grisdale
Apl. 26	Henry Darlington	" "	Thos. Cocker
July 19	John Leech	" "	Michael Thompson
Sept. 20	Wm. Leader*	Mar. 26	Wm. Chadwick
" "	John Dean	Apl. 23	Jon. Phillips*
" "	Richd. Taylor	June 25	Chas. Graham
1865—June 13	Allan Swift	Dec. 17	George P. Brockbank*
" "	Thos. Milligan	" "	James Westwell
July 11	David Theo. Williams	1873—Jany. 7	Ivie Copland
Nov. 7	Thomas Hilton*	" "	Elisha H. Monks
" "	Saml. Allenby Oliver	" "	Henry Litherland
1866—Jany. 2	William Swift	" 14	Thos. Burton
" 30	John Henry Nichols	Feb. 18	Revd. Philip Hains*
" "	Thos. Crook	Mar. 18	William Britton
May 1	Richd. Ellis	Apl. 15	William Brindle
" "	John Whaley	May 13	Thos. Milner
July 3	— Rigby	" "	James Gerrard

*Roll of Members.—contd.*

Initiated or Joined.	NAME.	Initiated or Joined.	NAME.
1873—May 13	Wm. Morton	1877—May 16	John Wall*
June 10	John Preston	June 20	Wm. H. Milligan
July 15	John Jagger	June 20	John Warburton
1873—July 15	Wm. Crankshaw	June 20	George L. Campbell*
Octr. 7	Wm. Worsley	Oct. 17	George Copland
1874—Jany. 6	Richd. Salmon*	1878—Mar. 20	John Hodgkinson
" "	John Hall*	Apl. 17	Thos. Green
Mar. 3	Catlow Crawshaw	" "	John Yates Mawson
" "	Rd. Worthington	Jan. 16	Thos. Hunter*
Apl. 7	Jos. Saml. Campbell*	" "	Ed. Edwardson*
" "	Wm. Worthington	" "	Joseph Wilson*
" "	Peter Marsh	May 15	Samuel Birrell*
May 5	Jas. M. Ashurst*	June 18	Israel Knowles
June 2	Wm. Johnson	" "	John Wood
" "	George Airey	" "	Geo. E. Scarborough
" 30	J. Wilman*	" "	Robt. Hodgkinson
" "	Robert Cross*	1879—Feb. 19	James Hornby*
Octr. 27	Henry Dobson Croft	" "	Brice Grant Dean*
Dec. 29	Wm. Best	Sep. 17	Thos. Strowger
" "	James Parker	" "	James Wilson, Senr.*
" "	Jas. Atkinson	Dec. 17	Allan Riddlesworth*
1875—Feb. 17	Samuel Part	1880—Jan. 21	Max B. Kürschner*
" "	Ed. D. Holden	Mar. 17	James Wilson, Junr.
Mar. 17	Henry Smith	June 23	Robert Layland
Apr. 21	Thos. Richardson Part	Oct. 20	Thos. Brayton
" "	Wm. Grime	" "	Wm. Taberner
" "	Thos. Clephan	Nov. 17	Thos. Dicconson Swift
June 16	Wm. Gregson	" "	John Knight*
Nov. 17	Joseph Brown	Dec. 15	Edward Hurst
1876—Feb. 16	James Holmes	1881—Jan. 19	Thos. Jones*
Mar. 15	Emanuel Morris	Feb. 16	Wm. Holt
Nov. 15	Jno. Graves Hawkins	" "	Richard Knowles
" "	George Williams*	Mar. 16	James Nixon
1877—May 16	Joseph Dean	Dec. 21	Edwin Seddon
" "	Richard Platt*	" "	Geo. Makinson





